FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

11 OCTOBER 1985

Interception of Achille Lauro Hijackers

Acknowledging the interception of the Egyptian plane carrying the hijackers, an Egyptian official cited by Cairo radio said the plane was intercepted by "unidentified" fighter planes and forced to land in Sicily, where the Italian authorities arrested the hijackers. Although the Egyptian plane was bound for Tunis, the Tunisian authorities had announced their refusal to receive the plane following its take-off from Cairo, the Egyptian official disclosed. In a Foreign Ministry statement issued later and reported by MENA, Egypt said that it "greatly regrets the action taken by the U.S. planes." Egypt's prime consideration was to save the lives of the hostages, Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid stated at a news conference reported by Cairo radio, and he stressed that Egypt "does not accept" certain U.S. reports and "insinuations" about the hijacking. In a subsequent development following the U.S. interception of the hijackers' plane, the Egyptian authorities canceled permission for the *Achille Lauro* to leave Port Said for Ashdod, Radio Monte Carlo noted. Quoting "well-informed" Egyptian sources, KUNA reported that Egyptian authorities have "seized" the ship and "arrested" the captain.

Meanwhile, Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin welcomed President Reagan's "courageous" decision in interviews with Jerusalem and IDF radios, asserting that the United States has joined Israel in taking action against terrorism. While noting that Palestine Liberation Front (PLF) leader Muhammad 'Abbas was also aboard the intercepted aircraft, he said the Italian authorities are likely to take action against only the hijackers, contending that the Italians were "coerced" into accepting the landing of the plane. For Italy's part, Rome radio cited reports of U.S.-Italian differences over the fate of the hijackers, pointing out that the U.S.-Italian agreement that the Palestinians should remain in Italy's custody followed a night of "frenzied consultations" during which the Americans requested that they be flown to the United States. A person claiming to speak on behalf of the PLF said, "Any wrong committed against our comrades will cost America dearly" in a call to a Western news agency in Beirut, Beirut radio reported. The caller added that none of the ship's passengers had been killed and called U.S. claims "propaganda." A PLO representative in Paris was quoted by AFP as saying th U.S. interception was an "act of piracy." PLO member Khalil al-Wazir said he holds the U.S. President "personally responsible" for the safety of PLF leader Muhammad 'Abbas. PLO Political Department head Faruq Qaddumi rejected U.S. claims that an American hostage had been killed saying the charges were "not based on any material evidence," in remarks before the UN Security Council reported by KUNA.

While Aden radio called the interception of the Egyptian plane "a new terrorist action" by the United States, initial accounts of the incident by many other Arab radios provided reportage without comment.

Israel

One person was wounded by a bomb explosion in Tel Aviv 11 October, IDF radio announced, adding that it is not yet clear whether the explosion was politically or criminally motivated. Meanwhile, a caller told the UPI office in Madrid that the PLO's Force 17 was responsible for the recent murder of two Israeli seamen in Barcelona, Madrid radio noted.

As for Israel's position on talks with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres revealed that Israel would be glad to use Switzerland's good offices to hold direct negotiations with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation in Geneva, Jerusalem radio reported. On relations with Egypt, Peres had earlier told Jerusalem television that he regrets President Mubarak's view that the killing of seven Israelis in the Sinai was "a minor incident." According to a YEDI'OT AHARONOT report, in a message to Peres clarifying this statement and explaining the Ra's al-Burqa' killings, Mubarak says the words "a minor incident" were an unfortunate choice, that he meant the peace process should not be terminated and conclusions not drawn from an isolated regrettable incident. In Egypt, Prime Minister 'Ali Lutfi asserted in a Cairo radio interview that Israel has been wasting time over the Tabah issue.

Soviet Hostages in Lebanon

Voice of Lebanon radio said the Islamic Liberation Organization kidnappers threatened to keep the hostages until Afghanistan is liberated and the Lebanese crisis is over. The radio also cited an Israeli radio report that a Soviet intelligence unit has arrived in Beirut to investigate the situation and determine the feasibility of mounting a military operation to free the Soviets, though monitored Israeli media were not observed to mention this.

Libya-USSR

Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev held talks at the Kremlin 10 and 11 October following the Libyan leader's arrival in Moscow on an "official friendly visit," TASS reported.

Bendjedid Visit to Tunis

Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid and Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba reviewed the latest developments and the problem of security in the Mediterranean following the Israeli "aggression" against Tunisia, Algiers radio noted in a report on Bendjedid's visit to Tunis. Bendjedid also held talks with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, the radio said. 'Arafat had earlier sent a message to the Soviet leadership on the Palestinian situation, TAP disclosed.

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi warplanes attacked and hit a "large maritime target" near the Iranian coast 10 October and launched another raid on Khark Island the following morning, Iraq announced in military statements broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio.

Meanwhile, the commander of Iran's Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) stated in a Tehran radio interview that the IRGC is mobilizing much larger forces than 6 months ago in order to begin a new phase of the war involving bigger operations.

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Further Reportage on Conclusion of Ship Hijacking

Khalaf on Trying Hijackers

JN101634 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1605 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Fatah Central Committee Member Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] said today that the PLO wants to try the hijackers of the Italian cruise liner in a Palestinian court on Egyptian soil. He added: If the Egyptians believe otherwise, then let them try them in an Egyptian court on Egyptian soil.

Abu Iyad said the PLO does not intend to bring the four hijackers to Tunis. There is no need to do so, he said.

Later this afternoon PLO official spokesman Ahmad 'Abd al-Rahman said in Tunis that the hijackers of the Italian liner were not handed over to the PLO and had not left for Tunis.

Hijackers Taken to Sicily

NC111137 Paris AFP in English 1132 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Amman, Oct 11 (AFP) — The leader of a Palestinian group that supports Yasir 'Arafat was with the presumed hijackers of the Italian cruise liner forced to land in Sicily by U.S. warplanes, and has been arrested, Mr. 'Arafat's political adviser said today.

The adviser, Hani al-Hasan, said Muhammad 'Abbas, known as Abu al-'Abbas, was arrested by Italian police along with an aide and the four presumed hijackers after the Egyptian Boeing 737 on which they were traveling to Tunisia was intercepted by four U.S. F-14s last night over the Mediterranean.

Mr. Hasan spoke from Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, by telephone with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE's bureau in Jordan.

Al-Hasan on Plane

LD111248 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1150 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Rome, 11 Oct (KUNA) — KUNA has learned today from reliable sources that hectic negotiations have been in progress at the Sigonella base in Sicily between the Italian and American authorities and the two PLO representatives, Hani al-Hasan and Abu al-'Abbas [Muhammad 'Abbas] who were forced to land together with the hijackers of the Italian ship *Achille Lauro* at the base by American fighter planes.

The negotiations are being held under a blanket of complete secrecy "as they are of an absolute military nature," according to reliable sources here. The negotiations cover the fate of the four hijackers and that of Hani-al-Asan and Abu al-'Abbas as it seems the American authorities are insisting that they also must be handed over to them.

Al-Hasan Not on Board

LD111415 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1344 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Text] Tunis, 11 Oct (KUNA) — An informed Palestinian source denied here today that Hani al-Hasan, member of the Fatah movement Central Committee, is on board the Egyptian aircraft which was forced by American fighters, in an astonishing operation of air piracy, to land at one of the NATO military bases on the Italian island of sicily.

This source has informed KUNA that in addition to the four Palestinians accused of hijacking the Italian ship *Achille Lauro*, the secretary general of the Palestine Liberation Front, Mr Muhammad 'Abbas (Abu al-'Abbas), and one of this front's officials who is known by his nom de guerre of Abu al-Izz.

The source said PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, currently in Dakar on an official visit to Senegal, was informed of the piracy practiced by the American authorities against the Egyptian aircraft.

Mr 'Arafat is accompanied on his visit to Senegal by a delegation including two members of the Fatah movement Central Committee: Messrs Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad) and Mahmud 'Abbas (Abu Mazin).

PLO Reacts to Interception

AU111006 Paris AFP in English 1001 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Paris, Oct 11 (AFP) — The U.S. interception of an Egyptian airliner carrying four presumed hijackers of an Italian liner to Tunisia was an "act of piracy," a representative f the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), Ibrahim al-Sus, said here today.

It was "in flagrant violation of international law" and illustrated "the extreme seriousness of the cycle of violence unleashed by the Israeli terrorist raid" on the PLO headquarters in Tunis, he said.

"The only authority qualified to try those responsible for taking hostages on the *Achille Lauro* is the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people," he added. The Tunis-based PLO had said it would try the hijackers.

Meanwhile in Beirut, the Palestine Liberation Front (PLF) called on the Italian Government to "immediately release" the four men and everyone accompanying them on the plane, intercepted last night by U.S. fighters and forced to land at a NATO base in Sicily.

The caller, in a telephone call to a Western news agency, identified himself as a member of the pro-'Arafat PLF faction, led by Abu al-'Abbas.

He warned Washington that "the slightest wrong done to our comrades will cost the American Government and its interests in Arab countries and the world dearly."

Reagan Responsible for Safety

JN111412 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1400 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Text] Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces, said in Amman today that he holds U.S. President Ronald Reagan personally responsible for the safety of Abu al-'Abbas [Muhammad 'Abbas] and his aide.

Qaddumi: No Hostage Killed

LD111022 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0925 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Excerpt] The United Nations, 11 Oct (KUNA) — The head of the PLO Political Department, Faruq Qaddumi, last night refuted the American claims that Palestinian fedayeen killed an American on board of the hijacked Italian ship *Achille Lauro*.

Speaking at the UN Security Council debate on the Middle East and the Palestine question, Qaddumi pointed out that the American charges "were not true and were not based on any material evidence."

He added that the accusations made by the U.S. delegate, Vernon Walters, that the Palestinians killed a 69-year-old American on board the Italian ship "were contrary to logic and fact, as it is unreasonable for the fedayeen to have killed that American citizen."

The U.N. Security Council meeting was held at the request of India in the name of the Nonaligned countries in accordance with the resolution the Nonaligned Movement had adopted at its last meeting in Launda with a view to activating the international efforts to resolve the Palestine question in a manner which would guarantee the legitimate rights of the Palestinians to set up their independent state over their land and in their homeland.

Qaddumi pointed out that the United States does not really want to see a just settlement for the Middle East and that its abstention from voting on the UN Security Council's resolution censuring israel over its barbaric raid against the PLO headquarters in Tunisia was categorical proof of that. He added that all material facts clearly show that the United States has been providing the Israeli enemy with material and military aid for a long time.

Qaddumi said that the U.S. decision to refrain from voting in favor of the UN Security Council's resolution clearly shows that the U.S. Administration was still pursuing its past role of obstructing the work of the Security council with regard to the adoption of any resolution which provides for preventing Israel from continuing its barbaric actions against the Arab people including the Palestine people.

Qaddumi referred to the barbaric Israeli raid on the PLO headquarters in Tunisia, saying that it aimed at impeding the peace process and that it was not true that the raid was in retaliation for the killing of 3 Israeli spies at Larnaca.

While both Washington and Tel Aviv claim to want peace in the region, he said, Israel has not once made apeaceful gesture for bringing about such a peace, while Washington continues to place obstacles in the way of achieving a just settlement for the Middle East question.

Qaddumi pointed out that the U.S. Administration has retracted its promise to hold political talks with a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and has put forward a number of conditions for doing so.

It is recalled that the United States had stipulated that the PLO should recognize UN Security council Resolution 242 and the existence of Israel before holding any dialogue with a Palestinian delegation formed by the PLO.

Qaddumi said that the PLO rejects the American conditions and insists that the PLO is the sole representative of the Palestine people.

Qaddumi reiterated the PLO's stance which provides for the holding of an international conference with the participation of all the parties to the conflict in addition to the permanent member-states of the UN Security Council for solving the Middle East problem and the Palestine question. He added that the time factor was important and that unless the current conditions are exploited for finding a just solution, the region will witness extremely complex conditions and violence will engulf the region bringing it to the brink of great dangers.

Qaddumi reminded the UN Security Council of the statement made by the PLO Executive Committee chairman at the UN General Assembly in 1974 when he said, "I come to you carrying an olive branch in one hand and a gun in the other." Qaddumi added: "Do not let the olive branch fall."

PLF Threatens U.S.

NC111159 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Excerpt] The pro-'Arafat Palestine Liberation Front [PLF], which is led by Abu al-'Abbas [Muhammad 'Abbas], today asked the Italian Government to immediately release "our comrades." The request referred to members of the armed group who hijacked the ship *Achiile Lauro*, as well as all those who were with them aboard the plane intercepted by U.S. fighters last night.

An unidentified person has contacted a Western news agency in Beirut claiming to speak on behalf of the PLF General Secretariat. He said that none of the ship's passengers had been killed. He added that all the propaganda being spread about the disappearance of a U.S. citizen was merely a pretext on the part of the United States to allow it to implement its act of air piracy. He held the U.S. Government responsible for this operation. He affirmed: Any wrong committed against our comrades will cost America dearly.

ACHILLE LAURO 'Seized'

LD111327 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1245 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Text] Cairo, 11 Oct (KUNA) — The ambiguity which engulfed the hijacking of the Italian ship *Achille Lauro*, today entered a gloomier phase which might mark the beginning of the dissipation of the clouds that have been overshadowing the matter.

The hijacking of the Italian ship has begun to assume dimensions characterized by complexity. Well-informed Egyptian sources said that the Egyptian authorities have seized the Italian ship *Achille Lauro* at Port Said, arrested its captain, and have begun interrogating him for giving false information about the killing of one of the passengers, an American.

The *Achille Lauro* was scheduled to leave Port Said this morning for the port of Ashdod in occupied Palestine, but the Egyptian authorities kept the ship at Port Said and, following preliminary investigations on board the ship, ordered the remand or the return of the four hijackers who yesterday were flown on board an Egyptian Boeing airliner to Algeria [as received]. Algeria refused to accept them and they were then flown toward Tunisia. The plane was intercepted by American fighters and forced to proceed to Sicily where they surrendered to the Italian authorities. The Italian authorities began investigations but have released no details about the progress of the investigations.

Egyptian sources described recent developments — represented by the American aircraft's interception of the plane carrying the hijackers — as an act of piracy and a matter which [word indistinct] tension in Egyptian-American relations.

The Port Said Prosecution Office announced at dawn today that it had permitted the ship to leave following the investigations it conducted on board to discover the reasons behind the disappearance of the American passenger.

The Port Said Prosecution Office director, Ahmad Nassar, stated thta all those interogated, incuding the wife of the person who disappeared, confirmed that they heard shots outside the room in which they were detained on board the ship just before the American passenger disappeared.

An official committee yesterday searched the ship at Port Said but found no arms or explosives.

Egyptian sources confirmed today that the Italian ship *Achille Lauro* is still anchored at Port Said and that it is not permitted to leave until further notice. Its captain had been arrested [as received] to help in investigations into his false report about the killing of the American passenger.

In a report published in today's Cairo *AL-AHRAM*, the ship's captain says that when he was informed by the second officer of the ship last Monday [7 October] afternoon of the presence of "terrorists" on board, he immediately went to the first deck. On arrival at the stairs to the deck he heard the sound of shots being fired from machine guns on the lower deck.

According to the *AL-AHRAM* report, the captain said that one of the hijackers then summoned him to proceed to the ship command room, where he found two more hijackers, who pushed him into the room. Some of the ship's officers and crew were sitting in one corner. The captain said that he was then ordered to stop the ship's engine.

He added that the hijackers told him that they numbered over 20, and asked him not to make any move as the ship was mined with explosives. The investigations and search carried out by the Egyptian authorities have proved this to be untrue and that there were no arms or explosives on the ship.

The *AL-AHRAM* report adds that the ship's passengers pointed out that they received good treatment from the hijackers; women and children were allowed to move about and to use the necessary facilities.

Last night, 34 passengers of various nationalities were allowed to leave the ship. This was done in response to their desire to return directly to their countries without completing their trip on the ship.

Egypt announced yesterday that the hijackers had left Egypt on their way, most likely, to Tunisia, where they were turned over to the PLO, but the PLO denied receiving the hijackers. It transpired that the hijackers were on board an Egyptian aircraft which was forced by American aircraft to proceed to Sicily, where the Americans have a base. It is probable that American planes left from this base last week to fuel the Israeli planes which raided the PLO headquarters in Tunis.

Khalaf Denies PLO Link to Italian Ship Hijacking

GF101948 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], member of the Fatah Central Committee, has affirmed that the PLO did all it could to end the hijacking of the Italian vessel and obtain the release of the hostages. He denied that the organization has any connection with it.

In a statement to WAFA, brother Abu Iyad said that the PLO has worked for a peaceful ending of the operation in cooperation with the Italian and Egyptian authorities. Brother Abu Iyad has categorically denied any PLO connection with this operation, and said that these acts were not the PLO's methods of struggle.

PNSF: No Faction Involved in Ship Hijacking

JN101424 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1404 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Damascus, 10 Oct (SANA) — Khalid 'Abd al-Majid, spokesman for the Palestine National Salvation Front [PNSF], has denied that any of the front's factions had anything to do with the hijacking of the Italian ship. In a statement today, he described the hijacking as an exposed operation, part of the bargaining tactics with the enemy and meant to serve political objectives at the expense of our people's national rights. At the end of his statement 'Abd al-Majid affirmed that the hijacking operation harms the Palestinian national struggle.

Paper Lists Reasons for Hijackers' Surrender

GF101438 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1015 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Kuwait, 10 Oct (WAKH) — Palestinian political sources have revealed four good reasons which made the hijackers of the Italian ship accept the Egyptian offer to surrender and return the ship in exchange for allowing them to depart following the hijacking which lasted 3 days in the Mediterranean.

The Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-SIYASAH* today quotes these sources connected to the hijack operation as saying that the first reason was that the hijackers discovered that the operation did not serve any Palestinian demand, since it was discovered that there were no Israelis among the passengers. This was bound to leave Israel out of the negotiations, since it was not a party which could be negotiated with and pressured in order to release the [Palestinian] detainees.

The second reason was that the USSR denounced the operation and this made it withdraw from any possible scenario to escalate the situation in the region through the hijacking affair.

The third reason was that the hijackers felt totally isolated, particularly following the Soviet denunciation. This isolation has been described as political and moral since denuciation statements followed one another from all Palestinian and Arab parties. Even Syria, on which they had counted, refused to receive them when they requested permission to dock at Syrian ports.

The fourth reason was that information reached the hijackers that there were U.S. submarines which had come close to the ship and which would have been able to abort the hijacking at sea.

The sources have indicated that the aim behind conveying this information to the hijackers whether true or false, was merely to have an effect on them and to prove to them that the operation was unsuccessful.

The hijackers surrendered themselves to Egyptian authorities in Port Said yesterday after they made two demands, namely not to be put on trial and not to be handed over to the PLO. The United States has demanded that the four hijackers be put on trial.

'Arafat Urges Arab Summit, Notes U.S.'Collusion'

JN101800 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1645 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Brother commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has called for an urgent Arab summit to discuss developments in the Arab arena following the Zionist air raid on the PLO headquarters on 1 October in Tunis. Addressing a news conference in the Tunisian capital last night, Abu 'Ammar said that the Zionist aggression was not directed against the Tunisian and Palestinian peoples, but against the entire Arab nation. He emphasized that the recent raid constitutes a historic turning point.

Brother commander Abu 'Ammar reiterated U.S. collusion with the Zionist enemy in this hideous aggression.

'Arafat Sends Message to Soviet Leadership

LD101602 Tunis TAP in French 1330 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Tunis, 10 Oct (TAP) — The chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, Mr Yasir 'Arafat has addressed a message to the Soviet leadership in connection with the latest political developments in the Middle East, particularly those (?regarding) the Palestinian cause.

The message was handed over by the member of the PLO Executive Committee, Mahmud 'Abbas [Abu Mazin], the president of the Palestinian-Soviet Friendship Society during a meeting on Wednesday afternoon at the PLO Political Department headquarters in Tunis with the Soviet charge d'affaires in Tunis.

The meeting took place in the presence of the director general in the PLO Executive Committee Political Department, Abu Ja'far, [Ihsan Abu Hijallah], Mr Faruq Qaddumi being in New York where he is participating in the work of the 40th United Nations General Assembly session.

Topics of Message

JN101803 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1645 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Brother commander Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has sent an important message to the Soviet leadership. The message was conveyed to the Soviet charge d'affaires in Tunis by brother Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas], member of the PLO Executive Committee and of the Fatah Central Committee.

Our radio correspondent has learned that Abu 'Ammar's message deals with the latest political developments in the area, especially developments in the Palestine question, and the dimensions and aggressive objectives of the savage Israeli raid carried out by enemy warplanes on the PLO headquarters in Tunis last week.

Qaddumi Confers With Perez de Cuellar on Raid

JN091829 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1645 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Text] Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, met with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar at the United Nations last night. They reviewed a number of issues, foremost of which was the brutal Zionist air raid on the PLO headquarters in Tunis.

Following the meeting, brother Abu al-Lutf said the United Nations is responsible for preserving any country's sovereignty and people against any terrorist action, adding that he and the secretary general had discussed the issue of the 1,500 Palestinian citizens who left the city of Tripoli, northern Lebanon, as a result of the unjust Syrian aggression against it as well as the hunger that could result from the continued clashes in the city.

Brother Abu al-Lutf said the main topic that was discussed was the forthcoming Security Council meeting to consider the Palestine question and the issue of convening an international confer-

ence to settle the Middle East problem and find a solution to the Palestine question as called for by the UN General Assembly. It has been decided that brother Abu al-Lutf will participate in the Security Council meetings to discuss the Palestine question for the first time in years.

AFP said that India, in its capacity as current president of the Nonaligned Movement, asked the Security Council to hold discussions on this issue in implemenation of the Nonaligned foreign ministers' decision during their meeting in Luanda, the Angolan capital.

Al-Hasan Says Jerusalem Bombing Response to Raid

PM111137 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 10 Oct 85 p 1

[Report on interview with Hani al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member and political adviser to Yasir 'Arafat, by *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* Cairo bureau in Cairo; date not given]

[Text] Hani al-Hasan, Fatah Central Committee member and political adviser to Yasir 'Arafat, said that the PLO has a clear understanding of the impact of the recent Israeli attack on its headquarters in Tunis. He affirmed that the Palestinian people in the occupied territory will respond to this aggression. Indeed the response began 2 days ago when the six-story "Mosad" building in Jerusalem was blown up, he added.

In an exclusive statement to *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT*, Hani al-Hasan said that the experience the Palestinian resistance gained in more 20 years has shown that verbal response is not as effective as the armed repsonse which our fighters are directing against military targets and not civilian ones as Israel is doing.

Asked about the PLO's stand on the peace process following the Israeli aggression, he said: This aggression will not affect our stand on the issues of war and peace. We will not allow anybody to define for us our movement and its direction. The PLO's attitude toward a settlement is governed by its principal policies and overall view of the situation in the area and not by mere reactions to actions, he added.

He affirmed that the Palestinian stand in response to all the questions that are now being asked will finally be defined at the urgent PLO Executive Committee meeting to be held in a few days.

Asked about the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue with British Foreign Secretary Geoffrey Howe to be held in London this month, he said that the PLO has not received anything indicating any change in what was agreed on during British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's visit to Amman. Therefore, the meeting is expected to take place during the second half of October.

Regarding the expected results of this meeting, 'Arafat's political adviser said that initiating dialogue with Britain with the participation of two leading PLO members is a positive step in itself, although it is difficult to speculate on what the talks will lead to. We hope that the meeting will pave the way for negotiations on the Palestinian problem on a larger scale.

With regard to the hijacking of the Italian ship in the Mediterranean, Hani al-Hasan said the PLO has absolutely nothing to do with this incident which will be of no benefit to the Palestinian cause. The PLO attitude toward such incidents has been known for a long time; it condemns any attack on civilians. Also we do not accept an attack on any ship that belongs to Italy in particular, Italy having adopted an honorable stand with us against the recent Israeli aggression.

Moreover, he added, everybody should realize what the incident could mean in terms of a possible escalation of violence in the area which makes it incumbent on all parties responsible to act immediately before it is too late.

National Movements in Syria, Libya Condemn Tunis Raid

JN091808 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1645 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Text] Brother leader 'Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has received a cable from representatives of a number of progressive parties and movements in Syria. The cable condemns the brutal Zionist air raid on the PLO headquarters in Tunis last week. They also condemned the role being played by Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian regime, in striking at the Palestinian revolution and progressive forces in Syria.

Abu 'Ammar received a similar cable from Muhammad Sukkar, secretary general of the Libyan national movement, who condemned the treacherous Zionist aggression. He said this aggression is new proof of the Zionist entity's hostility and is a result of our Arab nation's deteriorating situation and the treacherous policies being publicly exercised by the traitors of the nation. He stressed that criminal operations will only increase our Palestinians' determination to continue their struggle for the sake of their just cause.

Palestinian Attacks Against Israeli Targets

Details of Hebron Squad Capture

JN081819 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1648 GMT 8 Oct 85

[Text] A military spokesman for the Palestinian revolution forces general command has stated the following:

For the past 72 hours, an airborne Zionist enemy force estimated at 2,000 troops in addition to helicopters has been chasing the Martyr Abu Sharar group operating inside the occupied homeland in an area south of Hebron. Dozens of villages were besieged. Despite the Zionist military concentrations and reinforcements, one group, backed by many of our heroes in the area, clashed with the enemy forces in violent battles in which rockets and machine guns were used.

Our military sources in the occupied land and information arriving at the revolution command say that the battles and the clashes are continuing. The enemy sustained heavy losss in life despite its firm attempts to tighten the siege of the area and to control the area in which the group is present.

The Zionist military authorities concealed the news for more than 18 hours after announcing the arrest of five from the group following a battle in the Bet Shemesh area. At 1800 on 7 October, the Zionist spokesman announced the martyrdom of four strugglers and the arrest of a fifth, who was seriously wounded.

We warn the Zionist leadership of the consequences of resorting to physical liquidation in order to take revenge against the heroes of the group following their arrest. Revolution until victory!

[Signed] The Palestinian revolution forces general command

Governor's Office Bombed

JN081858 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1648 GMT 8 Oct 85

[Text] A military spokesman for the Palestinian revolution forces general command has stated the following:

Our heroes operating inside the occupied homeland are continuing to strike at the enemy's military targets. This morning Group 2 managed to place explosive charges inside the military governor's building in Bet El on the Ramallah-Nabulus highway. The explosive charges went off inside the building at 1005 when the building was crowded with enemy officers and soldiers employed by the Civilian Administration. A large number of soldiers were wounded and the building sustained heavy damage.

The Zionist occupation forces besieged the area immediately and began a large-scale combing operation in search of other explosive charges. Revolution until victory!

[Signed] The Palestinian revolution forces general command

IDF Vehicle Attacked

JN081919 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1648 GMT 8 Oct 85

[Text] A military spokesman for the Palestinian revolution forces general command has stated the following:

Following instructions by the revolution command, one of our combat groups operating inside the occupied homeland attacked a Zionist military vehicle with machine guns near the road between (Mahalin) and Al-Jab'ah in the Bethlehem District in the occupied West Bank yesterday. The vehicle was seriously damaged and its occupants were either killed or wounded.

Despite the armed security cordon and Zionist precautionary measures, our combat group managed to successfully retreat from the scene of operation. Revolution until victory!

[Signed] The Palestinian revolution forces general command

The enemy's radio admitted the operation, but claimed that only three soldiers were wounded. It said that its forces besieged the area and launched a large-scale combing and arrest campaign in search of our revolutionary heroes, but to no avail.

Attacks in Bethlehem, Jerusalem

JN092036 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1645 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Text] A military spokesman for the Palestinian revolution forces general command has stated the following:

In implementation of our glorious Palestinian people's will and the revolution command's decision to escalate popular and armed Palestinian struggle agaisnt the Zionist occupation throughout the occupied homeland, our heroes continued to carry out successful operations against the Zionist enemy in various cities, villages, and camps in our occupied Palestinian land. The following are details of these operations:

1. A Zionist military vehicle was attacked with machine guns near Bethlehem in the occupied West Bank yesterday. The vehicle was seriously damaged and a number of Zionist soldiers were either killed or wounded.

2. Our revolutionary heroes attacked a Zionist military bus with incendiary bombs near the city of Ramallah yesterday. The bus was burned and its occupants sustained various wounds.

3. One of our combat groups attacked a Zionist military vehicle with machine guns in occupied Jerusalem. A number of Zionists were either killed or wounded.

4. Our revolutionary heroes attacked a Zionist military vehicle with incendiary bombs on a highway east of Gaza. It was heading toward a Zionist settlement in the Al-Mintar area the day before yesterday. The vehicle was burned and its occupants sustained various wounds.

Despite the armed siege that the occupation forces imposed on the scenes of operations, our combat groups managed to return safely to their bases. Revolution until victory!

[Signed] The Palestinian revolution forces general command

The Zionist enemy radio admitted these operations, but did not mention the losses or injuries suffered by its forces. It said that its forces launched an immediate large-scale combing campaign against the Palestinian citizens in search of our revolutionary heroes, but without success.

IDF Outpost Bombed

GF101944 Aden Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1820 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] The military spokesman of the Palestinian Revolution Forces General Command today issued the following statement: Amid measures taken by the enemy in Jerusalem, our heroes planted a time bomb in a military post used for transferring troops near Hadassah. They continued to carry out the tasks with which they were charged in the area. At 1045 today, this bomb exploded when the post was crowded with soldiers, causing several enemy casualties. Ambulances were seen evacuating casualties from the site. Enemy forces staged an

extensive campaign in the area involving dozens of Palestinians, accusing them of having connections with the operation.

A revolution until victory!

Siege of Palestinian Refugee Camps Continues

JN091750 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1645 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Text] For the 3d consecutive day, the agent Amal movement militias are continuing to impose an armed siege around our Palestinian people's camps in Sabra, Shatila, and Burj al-Barajinah in West Beirut.

Reports from the camps area say that a violent battle occured yesterday between the agent Amal militias, which are backed by Syrian T-54 tanks, and the Palestinian fighters defending the camps. The aggressors sustained heavy losses in life and equipment. Sporadic clashes are continuing, and artillery and rocket fire are also being directed from areas controlled by Syrian tanks.

Joint Forces Attack ASL Position in Bint Jubayl

JN101805 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1645 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] The Palestinian and Lebanese national joint forces this morning attacked with machine guns and rockets a military position belonging to the militias of the so-called army of southern Lebanon [ASL] near the town of Bint Jubayl in southern Lebanon. The position suffered heavy damage and a large number of its troops were killed or wounded. The Zionist enemy radio reported the incident and claimed that one member of the agent militia was killed and another was wounded. The radio said that enemy forces immediately retaliated by shelling nearby Lebanese villages, destroying several houses and injuring innocent citizens.

PNC Speaker Meets PRC Delegation in Amman

JN091838 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic
1645 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Text] PNC Speaker His Eminence Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih met in Amman yesterday with a mission from the PRC Institute for International Studies led by (Shiuli Shan Tan), deputy director of the institute. The two sides fully reviewed the latest developments in the Middle East and the political situation of the Palestine question in both the Arab and international arenas as well as the brutal, treacherous Zionist air raid on the PLO headquarters in Tunis last Tuesday [1 October].

BAHRAIN

Further Reportage on Iranian Official's Visit

Received by Interior Minister

GF101310 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1040 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Manama, 10 Oct (WAKH) — Shaykh Muhammad ibn Khalifah Al Khalifah, Bahraini interior minister and acting foreign minister, met today with 'Ali Besharati, Iranian deputy foreign minister, who is visiting Bahrain. This meeting complemented the talks which the Iranian official held with senior Bahraini officials centered on bilateral relations and the general situation in the region.

Departs Bahrain

GF101600 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1140 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Manama, 10 Oct (WAKH) — 'Ali Besharati, Iranian deputy foreign minister, and the delegation accompanying him, left Manama this afternoon for Iran after a 3-day visit. During his visit, he conveyed a verbal message to His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa al Khalifah, the deputy amir, from 'Ali Khamene'i, president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, dealing with bilateral relations and current developments in the Gulf region. Besharati also discussed with senior Bahraini officials bilateral relations and the current situation in the region.

OMAN

Minister Elaborates on Unity, Strait of Hormuz

GF101350 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Omani Minister of Information 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rawwas affirmed the sultanate's support for any Arab effort aimed at uniting the Arab decision. In a statement to UAE newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* published today, his highness said that the sultanate is ready to assist both reconciliation committees formed at the emergency Arab summit, which was held recently in Rabat. He hoped that the expected reconciliation would be a final one and in the interest of the Arab nation.

His highness the minister of information explained that the Sultanate of Oman is ready to undertake any effort for the sake of the Arab nation. He affirmed that it will execute this role as soon it is requested. His highness referred to the Iraq-Iran war, warning of its continuation. He said: It poses unforeseen dangers and the superpowers might take it as a pretext to intervene, a matter which we reject. His highness hoped that this war would end soon so that a loss of the capabilities and efforts of the two Muslim countries could be prevented. Concerning threats to close the Strait of Hormuz, His Highness 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Rawwas said that there are international treaties which explain the matter, and that all parties must adhere to them. He affirmed that the Strait of Hormuz will not be closed, because it is not a food store to be opened and closed according to the wish of any party.

QATAR

Foreign Minister Addresses UN General Assembly

GF110600 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Excerpt] The State of Qatar has affirmed that the Arab Gulf countries are concerned with defending themselves and protecting the security of their region and that this security will be established when the superpowers desist from their attempts to interfere in the region's affairs. It also called for a halt to the Iraq-Iran war and called on the two belligerent countries to give a new opportunity to mediation efforts in order to reach positive results by ending the war, to foil attempts of foreign intervention, and to establish security and prosperity in the Gulf region.

This came in a speech delivered today by Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, minister of state for foreign affairs and personal envoy of His Highness the Amir Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani at the 40th session of the UN General Assembly.

The minister of state for foreign affairs said: The Zionist entity was established through the killing and expulsion of the Palestinian people. Its evil has spread through the use of its military machine, oppression, and expansionism against other Arab countries, such as Lebanon and Syria, and the entire Arab region. He added: Israel's strike against Iraq's nuclear reactor and the recent mad adventure of raiding Tunis' suburbs in a blatant aggression and an overt violation of the UN Charter forbidding the use of force and the violation of another country's territorial integrity are enough proof of this. He noted that while the Arab side is showing a sincere desire to establish a just and comprehensive peace, the Zionist entity continues its rejection of these efforts and continues its negative stand and places obstacles before all peace efforts and initiatives made by any party.

Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani emphasized that the Palestinian issue is the crux of the conflict in the Middle East and that this region will remain full of problems and threats until a just settlement is reached by restoring rights to the Palestinian people. He expressed regret over the United Nations' inability to make the required contribution toward world peace. He noted that the United Nations has been unable to find appropriate solutions to some complicated problems which were presented to it long ago.

The minister of state for foreign affairs called for taking the principles which the Arab leaders adopted furing their Fes summit in 1982 as a basis for settling the Middle East issue and in preparation for convening an international conference to be attended by all parties of the crisis. He said: The State of Qatar views with deep concern what is going on in Afghanistan, because Afghanistan is a hotbed of tension in the region. He called on the USSR to respond to international efforts and initiatives seeking to end its presence in Afghanistan and to enable the Afghan people to choose their political system and achieve self-determination.

Referring to the upcoming summit conference between Reagan and Gorbachev in Geneva next month, he called on the two

leaders to put an end to the cold war between their countries, consolidate world peace, stop the arms race, and find just solutions to the chronic problems in various parts of the world.

SAUDI ARABIA

Defense Chief in France on Official Visit

For reportage on the visit to France by Defense Minister Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, including his meeting with French President Francois Mitterrand, see the France section of the 10 October Western Europe *DAILY REPORT*, and subsequent issues.

Riyadh Comments on Visit

LD102132 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Commentary by Husayn al-'Askari]

[Excerpts] Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and minister of defense and aviation, has had talks in Paris with French President Mitterrand covering the interests of both countries and bilateral relations, and matters of international peace and security. Saudi Arabia's relations with the world provide an excellent model because they are founded on common interests and mutual respect. This principle is entrenched in Saudi policy which the Kingdom tries constantly to assert and to consolidate in its international relations. The clarity and soundness of the course of Saudi relations with the other world countries are responsible for the prominent position the Kingdom enjoys internationally and the appreciation its diplomacy receives in world circles. This has given the Kingdom honor in the service of security and peace in the world.

Prince Sultan's visit to France acquires special importance because it aims at the development of close friendly relations between the two countries and bolsters the channels of cooperation between them. France has distinguished relations with the Kingdom, as Prince Sultan described them. This gives positive dimensions to the talks between the prince and the French president and other officials toward defining cooperation between the two countries not only in the field of armaments, the sources of which the Kingdom is trying to diversify, but also in many other fields.

Undoubtedly France and the Kingdom look confidently to the visit, hoping that it will end in positive results which will further bolster relations between the two countries. In as much as Prince Sultan's visit to France acquires importance with regard to improving cooperation between the two countries, the visit also falls within the framework of continued Saudi efforts to bolster the Arab cause and to explain the clear Arab rights in the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Kingdom's insistence on the establishment of a just comprehensive peace in the region through the attainment of the Palestinian people's established and legitimate rights.

Undoubtedly, recent developments in the region represented by the Israeli aggression on the PLO Headquarters in Tunis affirms the urgent need for the establishment a just peace in the region which will act as a deterrent for the Israeli enemy and force him to abandon the policy of terrorism which he is anxious to impose on the region. This demands that the big powers should shoulder their responsibility for Israeli actions against Palestinian rights and its insistence on disturbing stability and security in the Middle East region.

Certainly, France which has adopted a firm stand at the UN Security Council by voting in favor of censuring Israel for its aggression on the PLO Headquarters in Tunis and which has also supported the Palestinian people in other matters, is fully equipped, by virtue of its leading role within the European Community, to play a major role toward the establishment of a just comprehensive peace in the region.

Paper Says Israel Behind Italian Ship Incident

GF100922 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0730 GMT 10 Oct 85

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Riyadh, 10 Oct (WAKH) — The newspaper *AL-BILAD* demands that the identities of the hijackers of the Italian ship be made known and that they be exposed. The paper says that the Palestinian cause disowns these people and the Palestinian struggle remains larger than such acts which can only be carried out by someone who is conspiring against his own cause and is in collusion with its enemies. The paper adds that when one looks on the operation in an analytical and objective manner, then one will find that it has been arranged in such a way that an observer can only describe it as harmful to Palestinian action, and that it has been arranged by the Israeli enemy, which wants, through its planning and financing of this operation, to create an atmosphere of confusion in international circles in order to harm the Palestinian people who have gained international sympathy for their cause.

Jeddah Cites Shultz' Praise of Peace Efforts

GF110616 Jeddah Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has praised the good efforts the Kingdom is making to establish peace in the Middle East and all over the world. In a speech to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee yesterday, Shultz described the Kingdom's role in this regard as positive. He also affirmed that the Kingdom is considered a positive force in the region.

Analysis Draws Line Between Ties, Arms Deals

GF101506 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 10 Oct 85

["News Analyses" by Salih Hasan al-Tuwaiti]

[Excerpt] Every time the Kingdom signs an arms deal with any producing country, suspect international sides begin to spread

rumors and cast doubt on relations between the Kingdom and several other countries. This happened when the Kingdom signed a deal to purchase the U.S. F-15 planes; Western media circles, known for their animosity toward the Arab and Islamic nations, began spreading rumors in all directions. However, the Kingdom followed its course unaffected. The result was that the Kingdom was able to obtain the U.S. arms it wanted.

Meanwhile, such rumors were spread when the Kingdom signed a deal to purchase arms from France: Elements influenced by the Zionists began waging a campaign against the Kingdom and blew the issue out of proportion. They made a serious effort to undermine the good relations between the Kingdom and Britain in a contemptible and evil manner. However, the Kingdom continued its course of action unruffled.

During the past few days, we have been witnessing campaigns similar to previous attempts, but this time aimed at undermining Saudi-French relations because of the arms deal signed by the Kingdom and Britain. It has become clear to all that the Kingdom has always considered relations with countries and arms deals two separate issues as long as it continues to purchase arms with its money and the deal is governed by the demand and supply situation and not through aid or loans.

This principle has been proven to be advantageous in the arms deals signed by the Kingdom with the United States, France, and Britain, considering these Western countries are most capable of satisfying the Kingdom's qualitative and quantitative arms needs. From now on, the Kingdom will purchase arms from these countries or others since the issue has become a trade off in which all compete to offer their best arms to win deals.

UAE

Commander Receives Bahraini Navy Delegation

GF101540 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0925 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 10 Oct (WAKH) — Staff Brigadier General Muhammad Hilal Thabit, commander of the UAE naval forces, met today with the delegation of Bahraini naval forces which arrived earlier in Abu Dhabi to participate in the joint naval exercise within the framework of cooperation among GCC states. The GCC states have recently intensified joint exercises within the military cooperation of these countries.

PDRY

U.S. Interception of Plane 'Terrorist Action'

GF110822 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Text] The United States last night committed a new terrorist action on the pretext of combatting terrorism when U.S. aircraft from the U.S. 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean intervepted an Egyptian Boeing aircraft carrying four Palestinians who took part in the incident of the Italian tourist ship last week. The Egyptian plane was on its way to Tunisia when the U.S. fighter planes forced it to land at a NATO base in Sicily.

A White House spokesman admitted the incident took place. He said that contacts were made in this regard between the U.S. President and the Italian prime minister. Tunisia, as a result of U.S. pressure, has refused to allow the Egyptian plane to land at any of its airports.

Chairman Cables DPRK President on Anniversary

GF101449 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 10 Oct 85

["Text" of cable from 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, to Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Korean Workers Party Central Committee and DPRK president, on the 40th anniversary of the foundation of the Workers Party of Korea]

[Text] In the name of the YSP Central Committee and its Political Bureau, in the name of the PDRY Government and people, and in my personal regard, I convey to you and through you to the friendly Korean party, government, and people the country has achieved great and important accomplishments over the past 40 years in the framework of building a new society free of exploitation. As a result, the DPRK has become a developed country in various fields. This has been achieved as a result of the party's and Central Committee's will, determination, and wise leadership under you. This has won the appreciation of all progressive, free-loving, peace-loving, and social progress-loving countries. We in the PDRY highly value these great successes and achievements; we are also proud of the struggle relations which link our two parties, peoples, and countries.

We take this opportunity to express our best wishes for the progress and development of the friendly Korean people, for your good health and happiness, and for the steady development of relations between our two countries.

YAR

Foreign Minister Gives Address at UN Session

GF101116 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Excerpts] The YAR has called for a total and complete end to the arms race and the limitation of nuclear arms production and an end to nuclear experimentation and programs of militarization of outer space in order to [word indistinct] get rid of all nuclear arms and reserves. At the same time, it also stressed the need to return to negotiations on disarmament with a responsible and constructive spirit to preserve mankind and its civilization. The YAR expressed the hope that the summit meeting between the superpowers in November will open the door for easing the tense and threatening theinternational situation as well as putting an end to the dangerous nuclear arms race. This came in the address of our country delivered by Dr 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani, deputy prime minister, foreign minister, and member of the Standing Committee, before the UN General Assembly in its 40th session currently being held in New York.

Dr al-Iryani reaffirmed that our country supports all efforts aimed at preventing the use of nuclear arms and supports initiatives calling for a nuclear freeze, whether the initiative is of an individual or bilateral or collective nature.

Dr al-Iryani reaffirmed our country's opposition to any foreign military presence in the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea and its continuous call to make the Indian Ocean a constant zone of peace and security, keeping it free of foreign fleets and nuclear arms. He also confirmed our country's support for all efforts aimed at keeping all regions free of nuclear arms, affirming that the Middle East region is one of the most important regions that should be free of nuclear arms. He stressed the need to attain international guarantees to prevent the introduction of such arms into the region as this would cause further tension [word indistinct] and danger in the current situation the region is witnessing due to the continuing hostile policy pursued by the Zionist occupation authorities against the Arab nation.

Dr al-Iryani reaffirmed that the core of the conflict in the Middle East is the Palestinian issue and that international peace and security are constantly subject to threats by the authorities of the Zionist enemy. This is due to its persistent stubbornness and increasing insistence on continuing its occupation of Palestine and denying the Palestinian people their legitimate rights. This is also the continuation of its hostile, expansionist, and racist policy against the Palestinian people's rights and the neighboring Arab countries, and its practice of all kinds of methods of oppression and terrorism. These represent a challenge to international society and are a conspicous violation of the UN goals, principles, and resolutions and all international treaties and charters dealing with human rights and the liberties of peoples and nations.

The brother deputy prime minister said that our Arab nation has suffered and continues to suffer greatly as result of the planting of the Zionist entity in the heart of the Arab homeland since its usurpation of Palestine and its hostile and aggressive wars against the Arab people and its invasion of Lebanon in 1982. During this period the world has continuously denounced and condemned Israel's aggressive policy. The various resolutions issued by this court, which represent the will of international society are proof of this. These resolutions reflect the constant aggressions and the policy of occupation and annexation of territories with force being continuously practiced by the Zionist usurpers. He demanded that Israel withdraw from the lands of others which it has occupied, and that it recognize the national rights of the Arab Palestinian people. He affirmed that the occupying authorities have (?violated) these resolutions and are totally insolent and arrogant, challenging international society and its will by refusing these resolutions.

Dr Al-Iryani also asserted that the Zionist enemy's intransigence and conduct would not be so and would not continue were it not for the moral support and unlimited economic and military aid given by a member country — the United States. He added that this country should play a major role in preserving international peace and security. He continued that the strategic alliance between the Zionist enemy and the United States is the most vivid example of this unlimited support. He went on to say that the time is now for the international community to shoulder its responsibility by terminating the Zionist arrogance and aggression and by supporting the just rights of the Arab Palestinian people, where this position stems from the greatness of the Palestinian issue and from the fact that it is the crux of the Middle East issue. He stressed that peace and security in the region can only be attained through the recognition of the national constant, inalienable, and legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to return to their homeland, to determine their fate, and to establish their independent state on their national soil under the leadership of their sole and legitimate representative, the PLO.

Dr al-Iryani called on the countries that side with the Zionist enemy — foremost of whom is the United States, which has distinguished relations with the enemy — to review their policies in the region and their positions that are biased toward the Zionist enemy, so as to be able to play a positive role in solving the Palestinian issue and the Middle East issue and consequently to be able to cooperate with the international community in pressuring the Zionist occupation authorities to be committed to the UN resolutions and thus to safeguard international security and peace. He also emphasized that the convocation of an international peace conference on the Middle East is a practical and sound framework for solving the Palestinian issue with the participation of the parties that are concerned with this issue — including the PLO, the sole and the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people — in order to reach a just and durable solution in the region. He added that the YAR, which adopts a principled position toward the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, asserts that any settlement that ignores these rights is an unjust attempt and will certainly end in fiasco.

He pointed out that shaky solutions will not solve the Palestinian issue in as much as they complicate it and take it away from the path of peaceful and just solution. He noted that all the Arab countries affirmed the honesty of their trend toward peaceful solution in the Middle East through their initiatives based on the Fes summit resolutions, which were welcomed and appreciated by many countries and organizations. These very initiative were reaffirmed by the resolutions of the Arab summit held in Casablanca last August, affirming that the Zionist entity, which bases itself on aggression and terrorism, is unwilling to work for a just and real peace. Every new day carries with it evidences confirming this fact.

Just 1 week ago Zionist military planes shelled a town in sister Tunisia. Despite the fact that the raid violated international law and the UN Charter and was an attack against the sovereignty of a UN member country, the Zionist occupation authorities were not embarassed to declare that their planes carried out this the ugly raid which killed many people and caused substantial destruction. Dr al-Iryani [word indistinct] in this regard, confirming that as long as the United Nations is unable to punish Israel for its acts, Israel will not abandon its terrorist practices and its challenge against international public opinion, similar to the racist South African regime.

In his address, he also talked about the Zionist invasion of fraternal Lebanon and said: southern Lebanon is still under Zionist occupation which is not based on any international law

or the UN Charter, which are being violated by the Zionist occupying forces with unlimited insolence and arrogance. He demanded that the United Nations work for the withdrawal of the occupying forces from Lebanese territories immediately and without any conditions in execution of the UN Security Council's resolutions in this regard. He affirmed our country's total support to the Lebanese people who are steadfast in their legal struggle to liberate their lands and resolve their causes without any foreign intervention or pressures in order to be able to practice their sovereignty and freedom.

In our country's speech Dr al-Iryani also touched on the Iraq-Iran war. He said that this war has regrettably entered its 6th year and that it has begun to pose threats to neighboring areas, thus indicating dangerous consequences for the region and international peace and security. He affirmed that the YAR highly appreciates Iraq's positive position and its sincere response to all the [word indistinct] efforts and mediations, especially the efforts and mediations of the UN secretary general, the Nonaligned Movement, and the ICO, and its response to all resolutions which call for stopping the war and ending the bloodshed. These include UN Security Council Resolution No 45 and the ICO resolutions issued by the ICO foreign ministers conference which was held in the capital Sanaa in December last year.

At the same time, he called on Iran to respond positively to these resolutions, initiatives, and mediation efforts and also called on all countries, especially the capable and influencial major powers, to shoulder their responsibilities to end the Iran-Iraq war and bring about a just and honorable solution that maintains the legitimate rights of the two warring parties in accordance with the provisions of international law — that is, peace through negotiations.

He said that our country is extremely proud to affirm its adherence to a policy of nonalignment in all its practices and positions and in its effective participation in crystallizing and consolidating the trends of the Nonaligned Movement which represents a safety valve for the developing and poor countries against falling into the trap of international struggles. He said that our country adopts this policy because it believes that the Nonaligned Movement, as a course, represents the only available means for the Third World countries to confront all kinds of domination by the major powers and because the movement consolidates international peace and peaceful coexistence. He said that our conception of a nonaligned policy is based on cooperating and reacting with all countries regardless of dissimilarity of political systems and social and economic structures in these countries within the framework of mutual respect and noninterference in local affairs.

President Receives Message From Supreme Soviet

GF101357 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, yesterday received a congratulatory cable from the members of the Supreme Soviet Presidium. The following is the text:

On the anniversary of the signing of the friendship and cooperation treaty between the USSR and the YAR, we would like to convey to Your Excellency and to the friendly Yemeni people our heartfelt congratulations and best wishes. The signing of the treaty is an outstanding phase in developing the traditional relations between our two countries and peoples and in further promoting the relations. We would like also to express our confidence that the fruitful cooperation based on equal footing between the USSR and the YAR — and based on the treaty — will witness further developments for the best interests of the peoples of our two countries. This will serve the purpose of attaining just peace in the Middle East and will help establish ideal peace in the world.

[Signed] The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, Moscow, the Kremlin

Reportage on Conclusion of Cruise Ship Hijacking

Mubarak Defends Actions

NC101631 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1400 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Cairo, 10 Oct (MENA) — Following his meeting with National Democratic Party leaders, President Husni Mubarak met with newsmen. Commenting on the hijacked Italian ship, Mubarak said: We did not want this incident to take place, but sometimes things happen that we have nothing to do with. However, Mubarak added, at least we managed to save the ship's 400 passengers, as the governments of the countries concerned asked us to do, and save the vessel itself. President Mubarak noted: Of course, we only got involved in the matter after the ship's captain assured us that no one had been killed or wounded. Therefore, we decided to rescue the passengers on the understanding that the hijackers would leave the country.

Mubarak added: After the hijackers left, we heard that a man had been killed. At first they said that a woman had been murdered. Later reports indicated that she was found hiding in the warehouse [as received], obviously due to the panic on board.

President Mubarak pointed out: There is a recording of the captain saying that no one on the vessel had been killed or wounded. Had he said something else, we would have had another view of things, and would have acted differently. The president continued: While making all this effort to get the passengers and their ship released, we were thinking of what happened to the hijacked TWA plane in Beirut. The U.S. Government asked that the plane's 400 passengers be saved. Nabih Birri intervened and negotiated on behalf of the hijackers. The passengers were freed, but a U.S. marine [as received] was killed. Mubarak added: Had we known that an American had been killed, we would have acted differently. We only heard about it after the passengers had disembarked and we had received the necessary approval. Mubarak noted: While working to free them, we were thinking of what happened to the hijacked TWA plane that landed in Beirut. We also had the U.S. Government's request to obtain the release of the aircraft's passengers in mind; it did not ask for the hijackers. The passengers were later freed and were taken out on a plane although the hijackers killed a marine [as received].

President Mubarak said: Naturally we did not know that anyone had been killed. We were thinking of rescuing the ship and its passengers, since the governments concerned had talked to us about it. We found out later that a man had been murdered.

When asked if the killing had been confirmed, President Mubarak replied: We do not know. First the captain said that no one had been killed. Five hours after we took the people off the vessel, the captain said that a man had been killed, and then a woman, but the body was missing. Of course, some will say: They threw the corpse into the water; many stories will surface. The president pointed out: No one told us. We took the captain's word that no one had been killed or wounded on the ship. We took the same attitude that was adopted when the TWA plane was hijacked. No one should blame us for this.

President Mubarak emphasized that Egypt is doing what it believes to be best for the public interest. He added: We are not to blame as long as we were told that no one had been killed or wounded, and as long as countries like Italy and Germany agreed to let us handle this issue to rescue the ship and its 400 passengers. Had the hijackers blown it up, some people would have said that Egypt should have done this or that. After we took action, they came 5 hours later and said that someone had been killed — first a man, and then a woman. Then they said that the woman was found hiding in the warehouse [as received]. Now they say someone has been murdered, but the body is missing and there is no evidence of that killing.

His Excellency added: We did this job, and took it upon ourselves to have them leave the country so that people will believe us the next time something like this happens. President Mubarak declared: They later found the woman hiding in a warehouse [as received] out of fear. Why don't they look for the man and see if he isn't hiding in a warehouse too, or maybe he never boarded the ship in the first place, as long as the captain says nothing happened. President Mubarak concluded his statement by emphasizing that the achievement of peace is the best way to avoid all these problems in the region.

U.S. Comments Not Accepted

NC102000 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1830 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, announced at an international news conference this evening that Egypt does not accept what is now being said in the United States about the incident involving the Italian ship, which claimed the life of an American man. Nor does Egypt accept any insinuations about this episode.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that Egypt has asked Yasir 'Arafat to bring the kidnappers to trial and to impose the severest sentences on them. He pointed out that he has a document signed by the ambassadors requesting Egypt's intervention to find a peaceful solution to the crisis involving the Italian vessel, and to save the lives of the hostages. He noted that the document is signed by the ambassadors of Italy and the FRG.

During the news conference, Dr 'Abd al-Majid played a recording of a statement by the ship's captain in which he declared that all the passengers were safe. He said that this communication with the captain took place between 1330 and 1630 yesterday, Wednesday. In light of this, Egypt agreed to take part in efforts to save the hostages and the ship. Had Egypt known that one or more of the vessel's passengers had been killed, its position would have been completely different.

The foreign minister pointed out that a number of countries have expressed thanks to Egypt for its efforts to save the ship. FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher contacted Egypt from Israel to offer his congratulations. The Italian foreign minister also got in touch with Egypt from Rome. This is in addition to many other states. Even the U.S. ambassador congratulated him and told him in Arabic: Mabruk [Congratulations].

Dr 'Abd al-Majid said he will compare this incident with last June's episode involving an American plane. The hijackers of that aircraft were not turned over to anyone. The hijackers' demands were also met. These included the release of thousands [as heard] of Palestinian detainees held in Israeli prisons.

His excellency said that this incident with the Italian ship must be placed in its proper perspective. We must accept what the vessel's captain said, since his remarks came while the negotiations were in progress. He told us that the group would surrender, and that it had withdrawn its demands. The Italian ambassador's sole request was that the lives of the passengers be protected.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid added that the hijackers had left Egypt, but did not specify their destination.

When asked if the hijackers were granted safe passage because that was their demand, 'Abd al-Majid replied: We don't look at this point as a demand, because what mattered to us was to save the lives of the hostages. He added: It would have been easier for us not to allow the ship to approach our territorial waters, as Syria did. But we agreed to do so only to save the lives of the hostages. He added that the situation was extremely critical. At one point, six helicopters flew over the ship. He said: Egypt thought these helicopters were from the 6th Fleet. The hijackers threatened to blow up the vessel if they did not go away. When we contacted the United States, it emphasized that these helicopters were not American. The situation, 'Abd al-Majid noted, was very tense, and was likely to explode at any moment. This was especially true since our information indicated that the hijackers had explosives all over the ship. One move or miscalculation could have led to an explosion. For this reason, all our exchanges were completely confidential, and we took action only after summoning the ambassadors concerned, who expressed their interest in rescuing the hostages.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid concluded his news conference by emphasizing once again that Egypt's ultimate goal was to save the lives of the defenseless hostages. Egypt, for its part, had none of its own citizens aboard the vessel.

Foreign Ministry Statement

NC111206 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1200 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Text] Cairo, 11 Oct (MENA) — The Foreign Ministry has issued the following statement: The Arab Republic of Egypt has been surprised by and greatly regrets the action taken by the U.S. planes in intercepting an Egypt Air airliner that was carrying the hijackers of the Italian cruise liner and two PLO officials who had participated in negotiations with the hijackers.

The interception occurred while the plane was returning to Cairo after Tunisian authorities had refused to receive it. The Tunisian authorities declared that they would close the airport in the face of the plane, despite the fact that advance approval had been obtained from these authorities for the plane to land at Tunis airport. It took several hours for this approval to be granted.

Egypt, which strongly condemns all kinds of terrorism and violence — whether it takes place in the air, on land, or on the sea — and which has condemned the hijacking of the Italian liner in accordance with its declared and known principles, conducted negotiations with the hijackers from a humanitiarian view and in order to safeguard the lives of well over 400 people, among whom there were no Egyptians. These passengers were in real danger. Egypt conducted the negotiations at the urgent request of some of the countries which had nationals on board the ship. These countries signed a document, requesting that Egypt conduct the negotiations. These countries did not make any specific demand with regard to the fate of the hijackers should they surrender.

Egypt ended the hijacking operation peacefully, despite the fact that the ship was outside its territorial waters and despite the fact that it had no knowledge about any victims resulting from the hijacking. This was admitted by the ship's captain in a voice recording which the deputy prime minister and foreign minister broadcast during his news conference.

It is known that the world followed Egypt's efforts to save the lives of these hostages with satisfaction. In this regard, Egypt has received messages of appreciation from several world capitals.

This prompted Egypt to attempt to hand the hijackers over to the PLO command, which would then put them on trial in accordance with what Yasir 'Arafat had declared and with what the U.S. President had approved.

Egypt gave its investigative authorities the fullest opportunity to obtain the largest possible amount of information about the hijacking. This information could then be passed to the parties concerned, exemplifying Egypt's concern to reveal the truth.

While condemning the developments of the incident, the Arab Republic of Egypt reiterates what it has already said to the effect that such actions do not serve the peace process. We base this statement on one fact, which we have often emphasized. This fact is that terrorism leads to more terrorism, that violence generates more violence, and that a just and comprehensive peace is the only way to establish stability in the Middle East and to ensure the security of all its states.

Hijackers Intercepted

NC110510 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
0500 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Text] A responsible source has stated the following: An Egyptian plane carrying the hijackers of the Italian ship left for Tunis with the intent of handing the hijackers to the PLO to be put on trial. After the plane took off from Cairo, the Tunisian authorities announced that they would refuse to receive the plane. Two unidentified fighter planes then intercepted the Egyptian plane and forced it to land in Sicily, where Italian authorities arrested the hijackers.

Ship's Right To Leave Canceled

JN110726 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic
0500 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Text] This morning the Egyptian authorities canceled the permission it had given to the Italian ship *Achille Lauro* to leave the Port Said harbor. This cancellation was given a few hours after the U.S. fighter aircraft intercepted the Egyptian Boeing that was carrying the four hijackers. An Italian diplomatic source, which asked to remain anonymous, said that the *Achille Lauro* had obtained permission to leave Port Said for Israel. However, the Italian diplomat declined to say whether the cancellation of the Egyptian permission was related to the U.S. aircraft intercept of the Egyptian Boeing.

Lutfi Discusses Need To End Terrorist Operations

NC101441 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1243 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Interview with Prime Minister Dr 'Ali Lutfi by senior radio reporter Siham al-Buluq; date and place not given — recorded]

[Excerpt] [Al-Buluq] Viewing the achievements of the October war, there is no doubt that Egypt's call for peace came from a position of strength after this war. It made this call after liberating the land and restoring Egypt's honor. There is no doubt that this call for peace demonstrated the Egyptian leaders' foresight. We see today how the Arab region and the Middle East are in flames because the region's rulers and officials did not accept Egypt's view. Perhaps what happened in Tunis, as well as the recent hijacking of the Italian ship, show that peace is indeed the only solution to the region's problems. What can Your Excellency add to this?

[Lutfi] Regarding the issue of peace, there is no doubt that Egypt put forward its peace initiative from a position of strength. A person cannot do this from a position of weakness, because this would be tantamount to surrender. Conditions would be imposed on him, and this is not possible. We called for peace from a position of strength. It was possible, thanks be to God, to sign a peace agreement after great efforts. By the way, I was a member of the official Egyptian delegation when the peace agreement was signed in 1979.

Egypt has always respected its signature to this agreement. Egypt has been implementing its commitments and the provisions of the agreement ever since 1979. However, Israel has not fully abided by this agreement. We mention, for example, what happened in Lebanon. We also point to the wasting of time over the Tabah issue, although the Israelis know that Tabah is Egyptian territory. This is not only what we say; we have the documents to prove it. But they know this.

[Al-Buluq, interrupting] This is the nature of their diplomacy.

[Lutfi] The nature of their diplomacy is to waste time. If Israel had implemented the treaty as it should have and not done what it did in Lebanon, for example; if it had ended the Tabah problem and begun talking about the rights of the Palestinian people, then the other Arab states, in my opinion, would have signed an agreement for comprehensive, permanent, and just peace in the region. When we talk about peace, we do not mean partial peace or peace that will do injustice to the rights of one of the parties. We always talk about a permanent, just, and comprehensive peace for all the parties in the region.

I would like terrorist operations in the region to stop completely. As a matter of principle, we are against any terrorist operation. We do not support such operations, but rather totally denounce them. I think that brother Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has always agreed with me in denouncing any terrorist operation by any party as a general principle.

Consequently, I hope that all parties in the Arab states and Israel will stop such terrorist operations. They produce no other results than to further complicate the problem. I also hope that Israel will end the Tabah issue and begin to find a solution to the rights of the Palestinian people. Finally, I hope that all the Arab states will become stronger and more united than ever before.

[Al-Buluq] Prime Minister Dr 'Ali 'Lutfi, we appreciate Your Excellency's efforts and precious time. We content ourselves with this. We hope to have another chance to meet with you again. Our best wishes to you.

[Lutfi] Thank you very much. Many happy returns of the day. God's peace and blessings be upon you.

Libya Reportedly Holding 49 Tunisian Diplomats

NC070934 Cairo MENA in Arabic
0910 GMT 7 Oct 85

[Text] Tunis, 7 Oct (MENA) — Today's edition of the weekly Tunisian paper *AL-BATAL* quotes informed official sources in Tunisia as saying that Colonel al-Qadhdhafi's officials have prevented 49 diplomats working at the Tunisian Embassy in Libya from returning to Tunisia. The paper adds that this move follows the Tunisian Government's decision to sever diplomatic relations with Libya. *AL-BATAL* notes: Thus far, we have no information on the fate of our brother diplomats working in Libya.

Swiss Foreign Minister Leaves for Tel Aviv

NC102133 Cairo MENA in Arabic
2115 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Swiss Foreign Minister Pierre Aubert left Cairo for Tel Aviv tonight at the end of a 4-day visit to Egypt. He met with President Husni Mubarak and Prime Minister 'Ali Lutfi, and held talks with 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

AL-AKHBAR Criticizes Israeli Retaliation Policy

PM101401 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic
7 Oct 85 p 10

[Mustafa Amin column: "An Idea"]

[Text] The Security Council resolution condemning Israel and the sweeping anger which has fallen on its head will neither deter it, nor prevent it from continuing its international terrorism as long as the United States embraces it, plays games with it, and pampers it. If it pinches Israel's ear reproachfully for a crime it has committed, it follows that up with $1 billion in compensation for that pinch.

President Reagan says that he supported Israel's air raid on Yasir 'Arafat's headquarters in Tunis because that is what the United States had decided to do if its interests anywhere in the world were subjected to terrorism; that is, if any of its institutions were to be blown up, it would send the 6th Fleet to bombard the state which the United States imagines was responsible for the attack.

If that rule is to be applied then the Soviet Air Force should destroy Lebanon, because the Islamic Unification Movement has kidnapped four Soviet diplomats and killed two [as published] of them; Britain should send its Air Force to wipe out Ireland because every day an Irishman kills an Englishman; India should send its armies to storm the Punjab because three Sikhs killed Indira Gandhi; and so the world would be in ruin and all human progress achieved over the past 40 years would be wiped out, as would the United Nations, the Security Council, and the International Court of Justice. The law of vengeance which prevailed in the dark and pre-Islamic ages would be revived. The United States would be the first loser if it applied the vendetta law. The Indians would wreak vengeance on the Americans for what they did to them hundreds of years ago; the Japanese would produce nuclear bombs and drop them on New York and Chicago in retaliation for the two U.S. bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Scientific progress in Japan is such that it can manufacture a nuclear bomb as fast as it can manufacture a television set or video set.

The policy of retaliation will lead not to peace but to more bombing, assassinations, and destruction. Israel is mistaken if it thinks that it has managed to intimidate the Palestinians with its raid on Yasir 'Arafat's headquarters in Tunisia. On the contrary, it has turned all the Arabs against Israel. Every Arab feels that this act of aggression was an aggression against him and that 'Arafat's home is the home of every Arab, including those who like him and those who oppose him. What 'Arafat gained from that sinister raid is a thousand times more than what he would have gained if the Israelis had dropped roses on him, and the Palestinian cause has gained more than it would have if we had spent billions of dollars to explain to the world the tragedy of these people who have been deprived of homeland.

One result of that unwarranted aggression is that the Arab and Islamic peoples will move to put pressure on their governments to join hands, stop their campaigns and plots against one another, and confront Israel.

We should realize that Israel would not just sit still and do nothing else if it got away with its crime. Every Arab state is in danger of facing the same fate as 'Arafat's headquarters.

U.S. Interception of Egyptian Plane Noted

JN110903 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0800 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Text] Washington — U.S. fighter aircraft intercepted an Egyptian military plane that was carrying the four hijackers of the Italian passenger ship and forced it to land on the Italian island of Sicily. Reports cite U.S. officials in Washington as saying that fighter aircraft belonging to the U.S. 6th Fleet in the Mediterranean Sea intercepted the Egyptian plane following its takeoff from Egypt on its way to Tunis.

Reports say that Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi's office declared that the Italian ship's hijackers landed at an Italian military base on the island of Sicily at dawn today. Reports added that the four Palestinians arrived aboard an Egyptian plane that was escorted by U.S. fighter planes. Reports also said that the U.S. authorities handed the four Palestinians over to the Italian authorities, and that this decision was made following an intensive exchange of views between the United States and Italy.

Reports say that the White House had wanted the Palestinian fedayeen to be taken to the United States to stand trial. President Ronald Reagan and Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi held several telephone contacts last night to reach this solution.

Reports say that Washington and Italy agreed to return the Egyptian plane, which was forced to change its course to the Sigonella base in Italy last night by four U.S. fighter planes, to Egypt.

In a press statement, Caspar Weinberger said that the Egyptian plane was also carrying two other Palestinians in addition to the four who hijacked the ship *Achille Lauro*.

Iraqi Air Force Raids Khark Island 11 Oct

JN111022 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1006 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In order to continue wiping out the resources of the tyrant Iranian ruling clique and destroy its oil wealth; in implementation of the decision of the people and their outstanding leadership; and in fulfillment of our brave pilots' pledge that they will continue to keep Khark Island a pile of rubble so that the charlatan gang will not be able to use its resources against our Iraq, the country of pride and peace, our courageous Air Force eagles launched a destructive new air raid on Khark Island at 0950 [0650 GMT] today. Having carried out their daring raid, our eagles returned safely to base, carrying with them the glad news of their success. Praise be to God.

[Dated] 11 October

'Large Maritime Target' Attacked 10 Oct

JN110609 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0545 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our powerful Air Force is continuing to destroy the resources of the Iranian regime in order to prevent it from using them against Iraq and the great iraqi people. At 0035 last night [2135 GMT 10 October] our brave pilots attacked a large maritime target near the Iranian coast, scoring an effective, accurate hit. Having carried out their mission with high accurancy and efficiency, they returned to their bases safe in God's protection.

Iraqi Communique 1,984 on 9-10 Oct Operations

JN101717 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Communique No 1,984 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 10 October]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. With determination and high ability, our valiant Armed Forces continue to deal devastating blows to the forces of the suspect Khomeyniite clique, inflicting the heaviest losses on the enemy in all sectors of operations. The following is a round-up of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. With their weapons, our forward units pounded enemy positions and vehicular movements in the I Army Corps northern sector, destroying one enemy vehicle and two infantry positions whose occupants were killed.

2. Our units in the I Army Corps central sector opened fire on enemy artillery positions opposite their positions, silencing them. One of our units in the same sector destroyed one enemy observation post.

3. Formations of our forward units in the East Basra III Army Corps sector, using artillery and tank fire, dealt effective blows to enemy positions and weapons emplacements, inflicting losses in life and equipment. Elsewhere in the same sector, four enemy troops were either killed or wounded.

4. A 10-member enemy patrol tried to approach one of our forward unit's positions in the East Maysan IV Army Corps sector. Our valiant fighters confronted it with all types of weapons, forcing the patrol to flee and inflicting losses in life.

5. One infantry position in the VII Army Corps sector was destroyed and its occupants were killed.

6. The criminal enemy forces shelled Mandali environs with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 10 October

'Aziz, 7-Member Arab Committee Meet Shultz

JN100941 Baghdad INA in Arabic
0715 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Washington, 10 Oct (INA) — The seven-member Arab committee charged with finding the means to end the Iraq-Iran war met with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz in Washington last night.

After the meeting, Chedli Klibi, Arab League secretary general and chairman of the committee, said that the meeting was aimed at explaining the Arab stands vis-a-vis the Iraq-Iran war. He added that he acquainted Shultz with the Arab stand which demanded peace in the region based on the principles of international law and legitimacy. Klibi said that the committee received a positive response from Shultz.

The committee includes the foreign ministers of Iraq, Kuwait, the PDRY, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Tunisia, and the YAR.

On the other hand, Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, also met with George Shultz in Washington last night.

Following the meeting, Tariq 'Aziz told reporters that he had discussed with Shultz the Iraq-Iran war developments and the Middle East situation. He pointed out that both topics were thoroughly discussed. 'Aziz added that among other topics discussed was the role which the big powers and the prominent members in the UN Security Council and the United Nations might play in finding a quick solution for the Iraq-Iran conflict. He added that Shultz voiced understanding of the ideas put forward and expressed his hopes that these efforts will materialize in order to find a solution for this conflict.

'Aziz indicated that during the committee's meeting with Shultz, he and members of the seven-member Arab committee proposed that five prominent members of the UN Security council, including the United States and USSR, work earnestly so that the Security Council is able to maintain the continued strenuous efforts that are necessary to bring about a satisfactory solution for this war in accordance with the UN Charter and international law.

Talks on Transportation Begin With GDR

JN101238 Baghdad INA in Arabic
1100 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Oct (INA) — Iraq and the GDR began talks on promoting bilateral cooperation relations regarding transportation and railways in Baghdad this morning. 'Abd al-Sattar Farman, Transport and Communication Ministry under secretary, led the Iraqi side to the talks while Dieter Albrecht, deputy chairman of the GDR State Planning Commission, led the GDR side.

During the talks, the two sides reviewed bilateral cooperation and ways to develop it regarding implementing a number of transportation projects, particularly in the railway field, in Iraq by GDR companies and establishments.

Dr Dieter Albrecht, deptuy chairman of the GDR State Planning Commission, arrived in Baghdad last night leading a delegation on a visit of several days.

U.S. Interception of Egyptian Plane Reported

JN110542 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
0500 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Text] Rome — The Egyptian military plane that was carrying the four hijackers of the Italian ship was forced to land at the Sigonella airbase in Sicily after U.S. fighter planes intercepted it last night on its way from Egypt to Tunisia. U.S. Government sources, who refused to reveal their identity, said that U.S. fighter planes surrounded the Egyptian 707 Boeing aircraft just after takeoff and forced it to change its course to Sicily. The plane landed at the U.S. military base at 0145.

Western intelligence sources say that the Egyptian plane was surrounded by a number of U.S. shock troopers and a number of U.S. fighter planes at the Sigonella airbase in Sicily.

REUTER says that the Egyptian plane has returned to Cairo. The White House confirmed these reports. White House spokesman Larry Speakes said that U.S. F-14 fighter planes took off from the U.S. aircraft carrier *Saratoga*, intercepted the Egyptian plane, and forced it to land in Sicily with the approval of the Italian authorities. Speakes said that the operation was carried out without firing a single shot. He said that Reagan approved the intercept operation at noon yesterday while on a brief tour of Chicago and that the Italian plane hijackers [as heard] are now in the custody of the Italian authorities. The Italian news agency said a short while ago that the United States agreed to let the four hijackers remain in Italy to be tried there. The Italian prime minister's office said that Bettino Craxi allowed the plane to land at Sigonella after receiving a telephone call from U.S. President Ronald Reagan at 0100 today.

Unions To Discuss Possible March to U.S. Embassy

JN100912 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
10 Oct 85 p 20

[Text] Amman -- The presidents of the professional unions will meet today to discuss means of responding to the treacherous Zionist aggression on the PLO headquarters in Tunisia and the appropriate measures to confront the Zionist-U.S. challenge to the Arab nation.

SAWT AL-SHA'B has learned that the meeting will discuss a draft for a protest memorandum that the professional unions will present to the U.S. Embassy in Amman, and discuss the possibility of staging a popular march to the U.S. Embassy in order to express our people's indignation against the U.S.- supported Israeli aggression.

AL-RA'Y on Israeli Press Reaction to Hijacking

JN101218 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic
10 Oct 85 p 1

[Editorial: "Saving the Italian Ship Is Defeat for Israeli Terrorism"]

[Text] It appears that the peaceful end to the Italian ship hijacking yesterday has somewhat shocked the Israeli propaganda organs. It appears that they were disappointed that the operation proceeded in a direction other than the one planned for it. It also appears that these organs were expecting dramatic developments which were avoided by the efforts exerted by Egypt and the PLO.

Amid the simultaneous reaction of the same organs and the lack of what they were waiting for from the hijacking operation, they, renewed talk about the seven Israelis who were killed in Sinai and about Egypt's alleged responsibility for the incident. Moreover, the Israeli propaganda organs insisted that the PLO is linked to the hijacking and claimed that Jordan is responsible for the escalation of resistance inside the occupied territories.

Israel, the only side to benefit from the incident, and that is surrounded by suspicion over it, was hoping that the hijacking would be perpetuated, aggravated, and complicated so that it could use it to absorb the international indignation toward Israel after its terrorist aggression on the PLO in Tunis and to convince world public opinion that it had the right to launch that aggression. However, the Egyptian and Palestinian efforts prevented the exploitation that Israel had prepared for. Perhaps what Israel fears most is that the details of its involvement in the hijacking will be disclosed at some time.

The Israeli terrorism that planned for and carried out the air aggression on Tunis could hardly have omitted planning for the absorption of the international reaction to this aggression. However, the absorption operation was not achieved after the Italian ship hijacking ended peacefully, prior to achieving the results designed for it. Therefore, the Israeli propaganda organs will inevitably give vent to their rage on Egypt and the PLO which contributed to saving the ship and foiling the absorption operation.

The Zionist terrorism that did not hesitate to commit atrocities against the Jews in many parts of the world to force them to emigrate to Palestine does not find it difficult to commit crimes against all mankind. The time will come when the world will realize that confronting this terrorism is the most important and greatest human action that should be done to save the world from the evils of the Israeli terrorists.

Islamic Group Statement on Kidnapped Soviets

NC101517 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1415 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Moscow has expressed deep concern over the continued detention of the Soviet diplomats. It showed this concern after the Islamic Liberation Organization delivered a statement to a local newspaper. In its declaration, the organization sharpened its tone and escalated its demands, linking the kidnapping to Moscow's policy toward Muslims in Afghanistan and the Soviet Union. The statement also attacked Syria's policy in Lebanon.

The declaration from the Islamic Liberation Organization says: Now that the guns and rocket launchers have stopped shelling Tripoli, we must explain the real reasons for our actions and lay out our views on current issues. We will continue to hold the Soviet spies until we are certain of Syria's intentions. The detention and destruction of the people of Muslim Afghanistan and the exercise of the worst sort of dictatorship against the Muslims of the Soviet Union and its other oppressed peoples deserve to be condemned.

The statement adds: We reviewed our position more than once and carefully thought things out before making this fateful decision. They [not further identified] forced us to do what we did not want to do and what we are not convinced of. They squeezed us and let us out. [sentence as heard] We have been patient and have waited in the hope that they will come to their senses and fear God. But it was in vain.

The declaration criticizes Syria's policy in Lebanon and notes: After Syria's attempts to subdue the Muslims by political means failed in 1965, 1975, and 1976, it resorted to its military machine. Regrettably, a number of leaders have become involved in Syria's plot. We only hope that they will wake up and recognize the plots being hatched against their people.

Soviet Intelligence Unit Arrives in Beirut

NC101657 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1615 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] According to an Israeli radio report broadcast this afternoon, a Soviet intelligence unit arrived in Beirut last night to investigate the case of the missing Soviet diplomats and to determine the feasibility of mounting a military operation to free them.

Beirut Army Positions Under Machine Gun Fire

NC101047 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1015 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Tension now prevails along the combat lines of Al-Tayyunah, Al-Amirikan, Al-Matahin, and Al-Barid. Lebanese Army positions and eastern neighborhoods facing the combat lines have been coming under heavy machinegun fire since 1130 today. Sporadic bursts of rocket fire are heard, particularly in the Al-Tayyunah and Al-Matahin areas.

Airport Shelled

NC101745 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] The relative calm that prevailed along Beirut's traditional lines throughout the day was interrupted this afternoon when fighting broke out in the southern suburb and on the mountain. Fighting was reported along the Al-Hadath, Al-'Amrusiyah, Al-Laylakah, and Science College lines. Automatic weapons, rockets, and mortars were used in the clashes, which began at 1630. A number of mortar shells fell on the airport's eastern and western runways, Hayy al-Sullum, Al-Awza'i, Al-'Amrusiyah, and Al-Murayjah. The fighting became somewhat less intense in the southern suburb after a cease-fire took effect at 1730 today. However, sporadic automatic weapons fire and a number of explosions could still be heard.

The situation along the mountain lines has improved. The shelling has almost stopped following the fighting that erupted at 1630 today along the 'Aytat, Suq al-Gharb, western 'Alayh, Dahr al-Wahsh, Al-'Abbadiyah, Baysur, and Kayfun lines. Automatic weapons, flat trajectory cannon, and mortars were used in these clashes.

Situation on Mountain Deteriorates 10 October

NC101636 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1530 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Violent clashes took place this afternoon along the mountain lines. All types of weapons were used in the fighting. Higher Security Committee sources have stated that shells fell in 'Aytat, Suq al-Gharb, Hill 888, the Presidential Palace periphery, B'abda, and Al-Hazimiyah. Urgent consultations have been taking place to check this deterioration.

ASL Clashes With Palestinians, Muslims in South

NC102046 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
2015 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Clashes are continuing between the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] and groups of Palestinian and Muslim extremist gunmen in Kafr Falus, Lib'a, and 'Ayn al-Mir. Machineguns, rockets, and artillery are being used in the fighting, which began at 2000 today.

New Armenian Group Pledges to Fight 'Agents'

NC101412 Beirut AL-NAHAR in Arabic
9 Oct 85 p 4

[Text] *AL-NAHAR* has received a statement from the "Armenian Revolutionary Union — Dashnaguriyun — The Revolutionary Movement," claiming responsibility for a series of executions of a number of midgets, agents, and traitors from the Tashnag Party, including traitors Sarkis Aznavuryan and (Tatul Sahyad).

The statement says: "We will soon reveal facts and details concerning the Tashnag Party Political Bureau's betrayal of the

Armenian cause and people. These revelations will be supported by the videotaped confessions of agent Sarkis Zitlyan. We will execute all the Armenian agents who use the Armenian cause for the benefit of the United States, Israel, and Turkey." The statement calls on "all honest politicians concerned with the interest of the Armenian people and cause to keep away from the Tashnag organization, which is a U.S. tool."

The statement adds: "We proclaim our new organization 'the Armenian Revolutionary Union — Dashnaguriyun — the Revolutionary Movement.' We pledge to Armenian people throughout the world that we will liberate them from the treasonous and agent cliques which have sold themselves to the devil."

Damascus on Reagan Announcement of Operation
JN110721 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0715 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan announced in Chicago yesterday that his administration was about to carry out a military operation to release the hostages of the Italian ship *Achille Lauro* when its hijackers surrendered to the Egyptian authorities.

Paper Notes Success of Al-Asad's CSSR Visit
JN101103 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 10 Oct 85

[From press review]

[Text] *AL-THAWRAH* affirms that leader Al-Asad's visit to the CSSR has given a boost to bilateral relations and opened the door for developing bilateral cooperation in all fields. This was reflected in the signing of the friendship and cooperation treaty, which has established a firm and well-entrenched basis for future Syrian-CSSR relations. It was also manifested in the other agreements covering party, political, economic, and other fields. President al-Asad's visit not only contributed to developing bilateral cooperation with the CSSR and promoting it to a new qualitative stage but also guaranteed its enhancement in the future within the framework of the friendship and cooperation treaty. The importance of the visit also stems from the opportunity it provided for aquainting the CSSR side with the latest developments in the struggle against imperialism and Zionism which revealed identical viewpoints on all the political issues. There was no problem or [words indistinct].

AL-THAWRAH adds: President al-Asad's visit to the CSSR was a valuable opportunity for the people and leaders of the CSSR to express their absolute solidarity with Syria and their admiration of Syria's role and that of its leader in confronting and foiling the U.S.-Zionist plans in the region and preventing the United States and its agents from placing the Arab homeland under the U.S. umbrella. Therefore, we can affirm that this visit was completely successful and achieved historic results. It transferred Syrian-CSSR relations to a new qualitative stage, established a firm basis for the future development of relations within the framework of the friendship and cooperation treaty, and procided the suitable opportunity to acquaint the leaders of this friendly country with the details of the situation in the region, which revealed absolutely identical Syrian-CSSR political stands.

AL-THAWRAH concludes: This important visit comes within leader Al-Asad's continued efforts to provide the means of steadfastness in face of the U.S.-Zionist challenges, enlarging the circle of friends, promoting their stands which support Syria and the Arab right, and enhancing confidence in Syria's pioneering role in confronting the imperialist-Zionist aggression and the capitulation and defeatism trend in the region.

Damascus-Amman Railway Line Reopening Scheduled
JN101027 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0855 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Amman, 10 Oct (SANA) — Faris al-Sarayirah, the Jordan-Hijaz Railway Line director, today announced that a freight train service between Amman and Damascus will start on Tuesday. Al-Sarayirah added that the line has been reopened following restoration and maintainence work as well as providing the other facilities necessary for reopening the line.

Correction to Interview With Foreign Minister

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Al-Shar' Interviewed on Shultz Talks, USSR Ties," published in the 9 October Middle East & Africa *DAILY REPORT*, page H 2, fourth paragraph, line two:

...in Beirut and Syria's downing of a U.S. aircraft and capture of its pilot?

Answer: There can be no doubt that the U.S. involvement in Lebanon, especially U.S. support for the Israeli invasion of Lebanon and attempt to impose...(supplying dropped passage)

Peres Proposes Joint Delegation Talks in Geneva

TA110924 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0900 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres stated this morning that Israel had proposed conducting direct negotiations with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation in Geneva and that Israel would be glad to use Switzerland's good offices to hold the talks on neutral territory. Mr Peres made these remarks in a meeting with Swiss Foreign Minister Pierre Aubert who arrived here from Egypt and who offered Switzerland's help in promoting the peace process.

The prime minister also noted that he believes King Husayn is serious in his approach to the peace process and that he would like to meet with him and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation without any preconditions and from a position of equality.

On another issue, the prime minister remarked that Israel knows that the PLO headed by 'Arafat is responsible for the murder of the seamen in Barcelona, just as it is responsible for the murder of the Israelis in Cyprus. He added that the killing of five Jews in Djerba in Tunisia without objection from the Tunisian security forces is unforgivable.

Reportage on U.S. Interception of Egyptian Plane

Peres Praises Reagan, Shultz

TA110702 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0700 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Text] This morning Prime Minister Shim'on Peres sent cables to the U.S. President and the secretary of state expressing appreciation for the operation in which the terrorists were caught. The prime minister noted the operation represented a landmark in the struggle against terrorism.

Foreign Ministry Praises Action

TA111148 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1100 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Excerpt] The Foreign Ministry issued a statement this morning, expressing quote satisfaction and appreciation unquote for what it described as the resolute U.S. action. The Foreign Ministry spokesman added that the U.S. move represented another effort on the road to the eradication of terrorism.

Rabin on Action, Abu al-'Abbas

TA110531 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0514 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Text] A short time ago, Defense Minister Rabin told U.S. television — and our correspondent in Washington, Razi Barqay, watched the program — that the leader of the hijackers, Abu al-'Abbas [Muhammad Abbas], may also have been aboard the intercepted plane which landed in Sicily. For the time being, the United States is not saying that this may be the case, but rather that both Abu al-'Abbas and Hani al-Hasan were aboard the plane.

Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin told our military correspondent he doubts that the Italians will deal with these two men, in addition to the hijackers. The defense minister spoke with our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal a short time ago and praised the Americans on the operation.

[Begin recording] [Rabin] I think we should all congratulate the U.S. President and U.S. Administration for their courageous decision to intercept an Egyptian aircraft which had been trying to free the four hijackers of the Italian ship, and perhaps other people responsible for that operation. This time, the Americans did it despite the fact that the plane was an Egyptian one, thus, I think, for the first time initiating action against terrorism. Indeed, the plane was intercepted by U.S. aircraft which took off from an aircraft carrier in the Mediterranean Sea. The Egyptian plane was forced to land at a NATO base in Sicily and, as far as can be gleaned from public U.S. reports, the four terrorists are already in the hands of the Italian authorities.

[Tal] Do you not expect the Egyptians to protest against this operation?

[Rabin] That is a problem between them and the Americans. We will wait and see.

[Tal] As far as we know, was Abu al-'Abbas — the man who conducted the hijacking of the Italian vessel — aboard the intercepted plane? Was he forced to get out in Sicily? Will he be brought to trial along with the others?

[Rabin] According to unconfirmed information, Abu al-'Abbas was aboard the plane. However, I doubt that the Italians will deal with anyone except for the four hijackers.

[Tal] Mr Rabin, did Israel know about this operation? Was Israel let in on the moves preceding the interception?

[Rabin] The Americans did this as their own operation and it was totally unrelated to Israel. [end recording]

Rabin on Effects on Peace Process

TA110748 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew
0620 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Telephone interview with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by Mikha Friedman — live]

[Text] [Friedman] Mr Rabin, were you surprised to hear about the U.S. operation?

[Rabin] I had no foreknowledge that the Americans were going to do such a thing, but I am glad they did it.

[Friedman] Do you believe that Egyptian President Husni Mubarak was also in the know about the U.S. operation? Are there any grounds for such an assumption?

[Rabin] Let me tell you that I think we had better concentrate on one point: We have been witnessing attempts by the terrorist organizations, headed by 'Arafat's organization, to carry out terrorist attacks. I think the U.S. move, in addition to the well-known Israeli operations, means that another country — and a superpower at that — has joined us in initiating action against terrorism. All the other factors, however important they may be, become secondary in the face of Israel's obligation to expose the problem of terrorism as reflected in the hijacking of the Italian ship, to cite one example. A poor man was ruthlessly murdered, despite being an American citizen, because he was a Jew. At the same time, 'Arafat's organizations and 'Arafat himself are murdering people on one hand, and brazenly lying and shirking responsibility on the other. It seems to me that those who want to fight terrorism, and Israel for one, must first of all focus their efforts on explaining this point. And it is good that the Americans did what they did. I also believe that by intercepting the plane, not only the hijackers were captured but also all those who took part in the terrorist attack — the leader of the faction and the PLO representative — without mentioning their names.

[Friedman] Mr Rabin, do you think that the U.S. behavior in this case may set the precedent for its future behavior in similar cases?

[Rabin] Look, I cannot speak for the United States. I think that as Israelis are the prime target of terror by the PLO and others, we must welcome the President's courageous decision, the efficient performance of the U.S. Air Force, the decision to intercept an Egyptian plane and all the political complications this act will bring to the United States, and the fact that the Italians were coerced — I am almost certain of that — to accept the landing of the plane and to do what they have done so far. I think this is a most important development in the fight against international terror.

[Friedman] How do you perceive the peace process in our region at present, following 2 weeks of such escalation in terror? The political moves have been relegated to the sidelines and some of the people involved even said their lives might be in danger.

[Rabin] In my opinion, terror and a peace process are a contradiction in terms. Anybody engaging in terrorism cannot be a partner to peace. Therefore, the PLO and the other terrorist organizations cannot and should not be partners to peace. If reports published today are true that the United States may cancel its participation in the UN General Assembly ceremonies because the arch-terrorist 'Arafat may be invited to address it, I consider this a sobering-up on the part of the Americans regarding 'Arafat and his terrorist role and, consequently, the fact that he cannot be included at all in the cycle of peace.

By the same token, Egypt and Jordan should also be persuaded to let go of 'Arafat. In my opinion, there will then be a chance of improving relations with Egypt and of advancing toward peace with Jordan.

Ship Still Not in Ashdod

TA110520 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Excerpt] The *Achille Lauro* did not reach Ashdod overnight as scheduled. The vessel was to have arrived at 0300 this morning. All the American passengers on board the ship were taken off at Cairo and are to be flown today back to the United States.

Jerusalem Arabic Radio Report

JN110637 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 0530 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Text] After midnight last night, U.S. fighter planes intercepted the Egyptian plane that was carrying the hijackers of the Italian ship *Achille Lauro* to Tunisia and forced it to land at a NATO military base in Sicily. The four hijackers were arrested by Italian Army soldiers. The Italian Government announced that they will be brought to trial while the United States announced it will demand their extradition.

Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin this morning stated that according to information available to us Abu al-'Abbas [Muhammad 'Abbas], leader of the organization to which these four terrorists belong, the Palestine Liberation Front, may be on the plane.

The monitor of the Voice of Israel in Hebrew said it seems that Hani al-Hasan, 'Arafat's political adviser, was also aboard the plane.

White House spokesman Larry Speakes stated that President Reagan instructed U.S. Air Force planes to intercept the plane while carrying the hijackers from Egypt after it was learned that the killers would leave Egypt en route to freedom. He said that President Reagan instructed the U.S. planes to escort the plane carrying the hijackers to a place where they will be brought to trial. The spokesman added that this operation was carried out with Italy's approval. Speakes affirmed that the United States will not tolerate terrorist acts and that it will continue to work so that terrorists are not given refuge. The White House spokesman critiized Egypt's behavior on the issue of the ship hijacking. However, he added that the crisis [as heard] between the two countries should be ended.

It is noteworthy that Egyptian President Husni Mubarak claimed yesterday afternoon that the four hijackers had left Egypt a short time after the release of the hostages and before he knew that they killed someone aboard the ship.

AFP quoted an informed source in Rome as saying that the Egyptian plane carrying the four hijackers and PLO representatives which the U.S. fighter planes diverted to Sigonella Air Base in Sicily is a Boeing-707.

Reuters said the Egyptian plane carrying the four hijackers returned to Cairo.

U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger stated that two other Palestinians besides the four hijackers were taken from the

plane for questioning. He said that if it is revealed that they are linked to the hijacking of the ship they will also be brought to trial.

Meanwhile, it was said that Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Dakar from Tunis last night on a visit to Senegal to hold talks with Senegalese President Abdou Diouf. 'Arafat declined to make any statement on the Italian ship hijacking.

Officials Claim 'Arafat, PLO Behind Ship Hijacking

Shamir: Israel Possesses 'Proof'

TA110643 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
0500 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says that Israel has proof that the PLO planned and directed the Italian ship hijacking. Shamir was speaking after a closed door meeting with the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in Washington. But he and several senators said that this issue was not discussed with the committee.

Kimche: 'Irrefutable Proof'

TA101852 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] The director general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry, David Kimche, says Israel has absolute and irrefutable proof that Yasir 'Arafat knew about the hijacking of the *Achille Lauro* before it took place. He called the murder of the 69-year-old passenger, Leon Klinghoffer, a racist and fascist action typical of the PLO. Dan Eisenberg reports:

[Begin recording] [Eisenberg] Kimche told reporters there was no doubt 'Arafat knew about the hijacking before it took place, though he could not be certain whether 'Arafat had actually ordered it. Kimche said the group that carried out the hijacking, the Palestine Liberation Front splinter, works hand-in-glove with the head of the Fatah organization.

[Kimche] Abu al-'Abbas [Muhammad 'Abbas] is very close to 'Arafat, and 'Arafat — or rather the Fatah — not only coordinates with Abu al-'Abbas, but they also finance all his operations.

[Eisenberg] Kimche spoke bitterly about the murder of Leon Klinghoffer. He was killed for only one reason, said Kimche: because he was Jewish.

[Kimche] We consider the cold-blooded murder of one of the passengers because he was Jewish — and this is the only reason that we can assume that he was killed; after all, a man in a wheelchair couldn't have been a threat to them. They killed him because they found that he was Jewish. We see this as a sign of the racist, fascist type of action that the PLO is making.

[Eisenberg] Kimche said Israel would not protest the handing over of the four terrorists by Egyptian authorities to the PLO because Israel was not directly involved in the affair. He said he expected a protest to be made by the United States and Italy. He also said that no matter what the Italian Government was saying about the hijacking, he was convinced it knew Yasir 'Arafat was involved in it. [end recording]

Baraq: 'No Doubts' 'Arafat Knew

TA101907 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] The chief of Israel's military intelligence, Major General Ehud Baraq, says the hijacking of the *Achille Lauro* and other recent terror acts have been initiated by top PLO leaders close to Yasir 'Arafat and carried out with 'Arafat's knowledge. Baraq told reporters in Tel Aviv tonight 'Arafat and the PLO were waging an orchestrated campaign to deny their involvement in terror acts and reap the political benefits. More from reporter Alan Ben-'Ami:

Gen Baraq said that Israel's military intelligence has no doubts of 'Arafat's involvement and knowledge regarding the hijacking of the Italian passenger liner off Port Said; the brutal murder of three Israelis in Larnaca, Cyprus; and the killing of two Israeli sailors in Barcelona. Gen Baraq says that 'Arafat wants his opponents and others in the Arab world to get the message that his diplomatic efforts regarding Jordan and the U.S. are not preventing him carrying out armed struggle against Israel. At the same time, by denying the involvement of himself or the PLO in terrorist atrocities, 'Arafat seeks to cultivate political benefits and support from the international community. Yasir 'Arafat is playing a double game, says Gen Baraq.

The head of military intelligence listed top PLO leaders whom he said had initiated and supervised recent terrorist attacks, with the knowledge and sometimes at the instigation of 'Arafat himself; among them, Abu Tayyib, the leader of Force 17, who — said Gen Baraq — was behind the attack on Israeli yachtsmen in Larnaca. Abu Tayyib is not the leader of some small fringe group, but the head of Yasir 'Arafat's personal security unit.

Gen Baraq said the terrorists who commandeered the *Achille Lauro* belonged to a faction of the Palestine Liberation Front headed by Abu al-'Abbas [Muhammad 'Abbas], a close confidant of Yasir 'Arafat and a member of the PLO's Executive Committee. And, said Gen Baraq, he's sure that the Egyptians, too, know it was Abu al-'Abbas' men who hijacked the Italian ship.

The military intelligence chief said that it may not seem sensible for 'Arafat to be involved with some acts which could adversely affect his international political standing, but his logic for the operations may be different than ours.

Rabin: 'Arafat Connected

TA100750 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0505 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin has said 'Arafat is connected with the hijacking of the ship. He said that Israel is taking care to guarantee that such a hijack will not occur on its ships. Our military correspondent Shmu'el Tal was among the group

of Israeli correspondents who spoke with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin last night. What did you hear, Shmu'el?

[Begin recording] [Tal] Well, yesterday Yasir 'Arafat said he condemns the hijacking of the ship *Achille Lauro* and he is not connected with the affair, but to this Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin replied that 'Arafat is known to be a liar.

[Rabin] I do not know all the details, but I believe that the Palestinian terrorist element that carried this out did so primarily in response to the aims of the various PLO organizations, with 'Arafat's organization in the lead, and I would not be surprised if there is some sort of link between that element and 'Arafat's organization.

[Tal] The defense minister said Israel is keeping a watch over such events. Israel is experienced and has taken care to safeguard the shipping lanes and flight paths in anything involving the prevention of terrorist raids.

On the matter of the murder in Tunis, the defense minister was asked how it can be guaranteed that Jews in Arab countries will not be attacked. Rabin said the Jews of Tunis know where they can be safe.

[Rabin] When it is a question of the Jewish community in Tunis, I can at least say, without any connection with the abominable murder, that at least with regard to them, there is nothing to stop them leaving the country where they are living. [end recording]

Rabin: Hebron Murder Squad Aided by PLO in Amman

TA101135 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 10 Oct 85 p 1

[Report by defense correspondent]

[Excerpts] The five-man gang that terrorized the Hebron area and elsewhere for over a year, and which was wiped out on Sunday night in a clash with security forces, was assisted by PLO headquarters in Amman, Defence Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said yesterday.

Speaking at the Moshe Sharet Institute in Jerusalem yesterday, Rabin asserted that the PLO under Yasir 'Arafat's direction decided over a year ago to step up terrorist activities against Israel. The Hebron area group, responsible for killing five and injuring 18, was part of this effort.

Despite the tragic incident in Sinai this week and the "unfortunate" Egyptian reaction to it, Rabin was convinced that the peace process and normalization between the two countries must go on.

Force 17 Claims 5 Oct Murder of Israeli Seamen

LD102003 Madrid Domestic Service in Spanish 1900 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Force 17 of the PLO has claimed responsibility for the murder of Israeli seamen in Barcelona. A caller claiming to speak on behalf of the Force 17 faction of the PLO today admitted responsibility for the murder of two Israeli seamen in Barcelona. In a call to the U.S. UPI agency's office in Madrid, the caller, who declined to give his name, said that a Force 17 commando murdered two Zionist seamen from the Zionist ship *Zim California* on 5 October.

Police Cautious on Identification

AU101530 Paris AFP in English 1516 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Barcelona, Spain, Oct 10 (AFP) — Spanish police remained cautious today in identifying two bodies found in an apartment here yesterday as those of two missing Israeli seamen.

All they have so far said in reply to Israeli and Spanish press reports is that the corpses belonged to two people about 35 years old, and that they could be those of the missing sailors, Josef Abu Yaakov and Joseph Abu Sion. [spelling as received]

An autopsy was being conducted today, but a police spokesman said there were no papers on either of the two bodies, and identification was also difficult due to the mutilated state of the bodies.

The two Israelis were reported missing from an Israeli container ship, the *Zim California*, which arrived here Friday but sailed without the two men Sunday when they failed to return to the ship.

In Jerusalem, Israeli radio's military correspondent blamed the killings on the Palestine Liberation Organisation and said Yaakov, 32, and Sion, 36, were both from Haifa and were married, with children.

Neighbours said the apartment where the bodies were found had been rented a year ago by a Palestinian they identified as Osama Ezzaheer. [spelling as received] They also denied Spanish press reports that an unnamed 42-year-old Arab had been arrested Wednesday in connection with the killings.

The independent Israeli newspaper *MA'ARIV* also said an unidentified Arab had been arrested in connection with the killings.

The bodies were found after neighbours telephoned police, complaining of a strong smell coming from the apartment.

Police said the two men were found bound and gagged with multiple knife wounds to the head and chest. The apartment was ransacked, they said, with the telephone wires cut, and added that they found rounds of ammunition and spent shells.

Peres' Statements on Egypt, Terror, Peace Process

To Warm Up Peace With Egypt

TA101732 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has said that all the recent serious problems notwithstanding, the peace process has

received a boost after King Husayn's speech and the process will continue. The prime minister also said that he plans to take measures to warm up the peace with Egypt. He was speaking to our correspondent Gabi Zohar in the settlement of Timrat, near Nahalal, after a memorial ceremony for the late Moshe Dayan, on the 4th anniversary of his death.

Sinai Affair 'Raises Problems'

TA101857 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres says the killing of seven Israelis in Sinai 5 days ago raises problems in Israel's relations with Egypt. Peres was speaking at a memorial ceremony for Moshe Dayan at Timrat in Galilee. Reporter Vivien Royston was there:

[Begin recording] [Royston] Speaking at a ceremony commemorating the 4th anniversary of the death of Moshe Dayan at the communal settlement of Timrat in the Lower Galilee, Prime Minister Peres called on Israelis not to be held back by fear, but to fight the phenomenon of terrorism. He joined the Tur'el family in the mourning of their daughter 'Ofri, who was killed at Ra's al-Burqa' 5 days ago. According to Peres, the recent events certainly affect Israeli-Egyptian relations.

[Peres] It surely raises many problems that we shall have to deal with it. It's not a simple proposition, because I'm convinced that all of us have to fight terror, not to forgive terrorists.

[Royston] Peres went on to say that he fears the Husayn talks will also be affected, as present events have created problems which cannot be treated lightly. However, said the prime minister, while we will never forgive murderous anti-Semitism, our goal is to find solutions, not to raise tension. [end recording]

To Fight Terror 'Unhesitatingly'

TA110445 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Interview with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres by Ya'aqov Ahime'ir — date and place not given]

[Text] [Peres] We are fighting a war on two fronts, the operational and the propaganda fronts, and we must fight them both unhesitatingly. I just want to say I am shocked to the depths of my soul by what occurred on the Italian ship. I am again reminded of the differentiation between Jews and non-Jews. After all, several Arabs are trying to say that they are fighting against Zionists, not Jews. In the TWA case they made a distinction between Jews and non-Jews, although they were not Israeli citizens; in the Sabena case, on the eve of Entebbe, they made a distinction between Jews and non-Jews; on this ship, they made a distinction between Jews and non-Jews. They took a man aged 60, in a wheelchair, after two heart attacks, shot him in cold blood, and threw him into the sea. Why? Because the name Klinghoffer sounds Jewish? And if they had been able to murder more Jews, they would have murdered more Jews still. The great difference that has occurred for the Jewish nation is that we have the State of Israel, with the ability to defend itself, and we will neither ignore nor gloss over any expression of anti-Semitism, any expression of murder, and without abandoning efforts to make peace, we will not hesitate to use the measures at our disposal, legally, both from the aspect of international and national law, to fight the dreadful and venomous phenomena.

[Ahime'ir] You mentioned the peace process; Mr Prime Minister, I would like to ask you whether the peace process has now been murdered?

[Peres] Not for me. We are not in a competition to see who can make less peace. Peace does not depend on all the attempts to murder it. I admit that attempts are being made to murder peace. That is not a reason for it to be murdered, certainly not by us.

[Ahime'ir] I would like to ask you about relations with Egypt. What is your direct reaction, if we may put it this way, to the remarks by the Egyptian president that the killing of the seven Israelis in Sinai was a minor incident?

[Peres] I regret that term and I am awaiting the Egyptian president's answer to my appeal to him on the issue of the investigation into the entire affair.

[Ahime'ir] And, finally, Mr Prime Minister, on the matter of the Soviet Union. Your deputy and foreign minister, Yitzhaq Shamir, ruled out, as far as we could tell, the Soviet Union's participation in the peace process, even after diplomatic relations are renewed.

[Peres] I have not heard that he ruled it out. I read such a report; what I know is that I spoke with Mr Shamir on the eve of his meeting with the secretary of state, and he said something to me that appears to be reasonable: that as long as the Soviet Union continues to have no diplomatic relations with Israel, it cannot be figure as a central figure in solving the dispute in the Middle East. I believe this was his position and I am not prepared to react to a journalistic report.

[Ahime'ir] Finally, did you meet with Gorbachev?

[Peres] That really is the end.

PLO Disrupting Husayn's Efforts

TA101429 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1420 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres has said that the PLO is responsible for all the recent terrorist attacks, which, in his opinion, are an attempt to disrupt King Husayn's peace efforts. Shim'on Peres again said that King Husayn is serious in his attitude toward peace, and efforts in this direction must not be abandoned. The prime minister was speaking during a meeting with UN Under Secretary Brian Urquhart.

Our correspondent Hayim Zissowitz reports that during the meeting, Mr Peres stated that Israel does not object to the renewal of the UNIFIL mandate in southern Lebanon.

Sharon Raps Jordan for Harboring Terrorist Bodies
TA101501 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1444 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon has charged Jordan with responsibility for the operation of headquarters belonging to terrorist organizations in Amman, from where murderers leave to carry out attacks on Jews. Minister Sharon said that those who murdered the Israeli seamen in Barcelona are people based in Amman. In a talk with our correspondent Elihu Ben-On, the industry and trade minister said he is not proposing that we wage a war against Jordan; rather, he is proposing that we take steps that will prevent this danger in the future. It is inconceivable, he said, that King Husayn deals with the terrorists only when it is convenient for him. Terrorists are not allowed to pass through the Jordan Valley because of the fear of damage to the agricultural infrastructure; however, the headquarters of terrorist organizations are present in Amman, he noted.

Moshe Arens Interviewed on Relations With Egypt
TA101312 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1100 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Interview with Acting Foreign Minister Moshe Arens conducted by Anchorman 'Oded Ben-'Ami and correspondent Hayim Zissowitz — live in the studio]

[Text] [Ben-'Ami] Mr Minister, the Egyptian reaction to the latest events is, perhaps, trying to minimize the impression left by the events. You have certainly received the reactions, you have monitored them. Are these reactions satisfactory for you?

[Arens] These reactions certainly do not satisfy us. We asked the Egyptians, a few days ago, for a detailed report about the details of the awful and tragic event in which seven Israelis were killed, some of them children. They were prevented from receiving first aid which could have saved five of them, apparently. We have not yet received such a report.

[Ben-'Ami] Did you ask to get this report soon, and so far you have not received anything? Do you know whether any serious investigation into this entire affair is being conducted at all?

[Arens] So we have been told. Because we have not received anything, a reaction or an answer to our request which was submitted on my instructions, through our ambassador in Cairo, I instructed the director general of the Foreign Ministry, Mr Kimche, to summon Mr Basyuni last night and he again asked him to let us have the details of the investigation into the event and I understand that such an investigation really is being conducted in Egypt. The event, as tragic and awful as it was, does not seem to me to be so complicated that it requires an investigation lasting weeks. There is no doubt that the matter could be concluded by an investigation over a few days and we expect to receive the report and answers in the near future. In any event, I hope so. Yesterday I, like all the country's citizens I think, was very disappointed with President Mubarak's reaction, which made light of this tragic event.

[Zissowitz] In view of this, after all these events: Ra's al-Burqa', the release of the ship's terrorists, even the attack on the Israeli holidaymakers, can Israel still be satisfied with its demand for a vigorous investigation or should it take harsher steps?

[Arens] In the final analysis, every situation in life can be summed up by a choice between alternatives. I do not know just what alternative you are hinting at.

[Ben-'Ami] For instance, there is a demand by members of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee to recall our ambassador.

[Arens] I do not think we should recall the ambassador at this stage. Do not forget we are in a situation in which we are demanding that the Egyptians send back their ambassador to Israel. We regard the recall to Egypt of their ambassador as a breach of the peace agreement. It is not the only violation and this, in fact, is the serious thing. We paid a very high price for the peace agreement. We are aware that there are several violations which appear serious to us. One of them also took the form of the event in Ra's al-Burqa'. It turns out, at least according to the information in our possession, that the people involved in the murder, or the man involved in the murder, was neither a policeman nor a soldier. According to the peace agreement, the Egyptians are forbidden to maintain soldiers or an army in that area, so our initial demand should be that Egypt correct the violations, fulfill the commitments they took upon themselves in the peace agreement, and that also includes sending back the Egyptian ambassador to Israel.

[Zissowitz] I understand that there have also been other contradictions between the unofficial findings that Egypt has submitted about the event in Ra's al-Burqa' and the evidence we have. Perhaps you could amplify?

[Arens] I see no purpose in amplifying. We are awaiting the official report by the Egyptians. What has been said in Egypt about the event does not fit in with what we know about the event from reports by the Israeli tourists who managed to survive and return to us.

[Ben-'Ami] Mr Minister, in the affair of the ship which has just ended, it turns out that the terrorists who hijacked the ship and murdered the Jewish passenger were permitted to leave Egypt for Tunis and thus, it seems, the door has been closed on the possibility of putting them on trial in any country whatsoever. Does Israel accept the situation as it is, or will it try to do something?

[Arens] We do not think that any agreements with terrorists or with the PLO are helpful or further the war against terrorism. Just the opposite. In this case, after the terrorists' action against the Italian ship, and especially after the brutal murder of the elderly Jew in the wheelchair on the ship's deck and his being thrown into the sea, it is hard for us here in Israel to understand how an arrangement could have been reached to permit those terrorists to go free, and we are unable to understand the Egyptian Government's position.

[Zissowitz] At the meeting from which you have just come, the Likud faction meeting, Deputy Foreign Minister Roni Milo said Israel should repeat what Minister Ari'el Sharon once declared: that Israel will attack the terrorists' headquarters everywhere, including Jordan. Does the increase in the acts of terrorism we have been witnessing recently not justify such a declaration by Israel?

[Arens] It is not declarations that are important and I do not know that it helps to repeat the same thing several times. Our policy should be, and it is, that there is no immunity, not for terrorists nor for terrorist bases, anywhere in the world.

[Ben-'Ami] The latest affair is that of the murder of the two seamen in Barcelona. Are we in contact with the Spanish to receive information about the investigation? Are there any details you can give us about this incident?

[Arens] To my regret, I do not at present have any additional information that I can give you.

[Ben-'Ami] But are there direct contacts between us and the Spanish authorities?

[Arens] There are such contacts, yes.

[Zissowitz] What have they revealed, if you can tell us? Have any further details emerged to those we already know?

[Arens] I have already said that, to my regret, I have no additional information I can give you at this moment.

[Ben-'Ami] Mr Minister, we have recently witnessed an unending series of acts of terrorism. Following all these things, is there any intention of holding some sort of wide-ranging Cabinet discussion of the entire issue of behavior toward terrorism and our relations, perhaps with other countries whose attitude toward terrorism perhaps encourages it?

[Arens] The Cabinet has held several discussions on the issue of terrorism. The Inner Cabinet has also held such discussions. I am sure we must continue to discuss the issue and make the suitable decisions. The war against terrorism is one with many fronts and many dimensions. It has intelligence and operational aspects which should not be discussed over the air. It also has political aspects, the relations between us and other countries, our attempt to reach cooperation with the Western world's governments, in the war against terrorism, and there is also the problem of a certain amount of forgiveness that has developed in Israel over the past few years toward terrorism and the terrorist organizations and people who declare their support for the terrorist organizations.

Herzog Tells Egypt Not To Shrug Off Sinai Killing

TA101900 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English
1800 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] President Herzog has called on the Egyptian authorities not to underestimate the incident in which seven Israelis were murdered in the Sinai. He said criminal murder is a sad reminder that even after a peace treaty is signed, there are still people who do not find it acceptable. President Herzog went on to say the sediment of enmity, which Israel hoped was a thing of the past, occasionally rises to the surface, and is the outcome of intolerable incitement and denigration.

Milo, PM's Office Trade Attacks Over Sinai Affair

TA101953 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew
1900 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Report by Knesset correspondent Ya'aqov Ahime'ir — live in the studio]

[Excerpt] During the Likud faction meeting today, Deputy Foreign Minister Roni Milo sharply criticized the government or, to be exact, the prime minister and the Alignment.

Deputy Minister Milo said, among other things: I have said in the past that a large coalition exists, comprised of the Alignment section of the government, foreign circles, including U.S. elements, and the Israeli press which is controlled by people who want us removed from Judaea and Samaria.

As said, Milo strongly attacked the prime minister. Milo said that Mr Peres did indeed react sharply this morning to the murder of the American Jewish tourist, Leon Klinghoffer, but Mr Peres did not react sharply to the incident in Ra's al-Burqa'. The reason, according to Milo, behind the strong reaction to Klinghoffer's murder as opposed to that over Ra's al-Burqa' is that Klinghoffer's murder was in no way linked to Husayn and to promoting peace.

This evening the Prime Minister's Office responded to the remarks made by Roni Milo: It would be worthwhile for the deputy foreign minister to stop impudently giving the prime minister grades and making political headway out of every tragedy. It would be better if the deputy foreign minister did what is required of him; that is, fostering Israel's foreign relations. This was the response of the Prime Minister's Office.

Sharon Favors Postponing Talks With Egypt

TA101333 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
1300 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Minister Ari'el Sharon thinks that Israel should take the initiative and inform Egypt that it is postponing talks with it until the Egyptians complete a comprehensive investigation of the murders in Sinai and submit an official apology. According to the industry and trade minister, the continuation of peace with Egypt cannot be built on sturdy foundations if Israel continues the appeasement trend of recent months. Minister Sharon believes that all the Egyptian reports on the incident so far have been false and imprecise. He was speaking with our correspondent Elihu Ben-On.

Mubarak Message to Peres on Sinai Murders Detailed

TA110946 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 11 Oct 85 pp 1, 7

[Report by Smadar Peri]

[Text] In a message he sent yesterday to Prime Minister Shim'on Peres, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak admits that his remark that the murder of seven Israelis at Ra's al-Burqa' was "a minor incident" had been "unfortunate."

Mubarak conveyed the message through the Egyptian charge d'affaires in Tel Aviv, Muhammad Basyuni, in response to a message Peres sent him 2 days ago.

In the message, the Egyptian president argues that what he meant by "a minor incident" is that the peace process should not be terminated in the wake of the murder in the Sinai and that political conclusions should not be drawn from an isolated regrettable incident. "The words 'a minor incident' were an unfortunate choice, but I want to go ahead with the peace process," Mubarak notes.

The Egyptian president also praises 'Ezer Weizman's stance against the bombing of the PLO headquarters in Tunisia. "I know that his position was not popular in Israel, but it was right," Mubarak says.

Basyuni also presented Peres with partial explanations of the murder, but not with a full report. It was not reported when the Egyptians would present a full report about the affair.

Nevertheless, it now seems that the Egyptian version, that all the Israelis — seven dead and two wounded — had been shot by one weapon, a Kalashnikov, held by one soldier, is true. This version was confirmed by the tests conducted by the ballistics department of the Israeli Police.

It should be pointed out that the Egyptian clarifications were relayed to Israel following the vehement protests of Israeli officials. Minister 'Ezer Weizman conferred with Basyuni 2 days ago, warned him that a dangerous deterioration might occur in Israeli-Egyptian relations, and asked him to convey a personal message to Mubarak to the effect that he should hurry up and submit the investigation report to Israel.

Envoy Basyuni on Current Tension in Relations

JN101531 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1430 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Egyptian Charge d'Affaires to Israel Muhammad Basyuni has said that he does not believe there is any connection between the Ra's al-Burqa' incident and the incident in which Muslim fundamentalists harassed a group of Israeli tourists in Port Said as reported last night. Basyuni, who was speaking to our correspondent Bassam Jabir, added that the Israeli Air Force raid on Tunis has created negative reactions in Egyptian public opinion.

Replying to a question by our correspondent, Basyuni said that he does not believe there is any danger to tourists because Egypt ensures security and places for all tourists. An isolated incident cannot affect tourism in Egypt, he added.

Basyuni announced that the two Egyptian consulates in Israel continue to receive applications from Israelis wanting to visit Egypt. This confirms, he said, that the peace process is not moving backward.

The Egyptian charge d'affaires said that the region is currently going through a period of tension due to the recent incidents. We must all work together to remove this tension and maintain the peace process, he concluded.

Regional Political Process Expected To Go Forward

TA101159 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 10 Oct 85 p 2

[Report by Yosef Tzuri'el]

[Text] Political sources in Jerusalem believe that the Israeli Air Force operation in Tunisia has not eliminated the prospects for the political process in the region in the coming months, and surprises are expected on the Tabah affair as well.

Unlike the Likud ministers, people in the Prime Minister's Office expected a sharp reaction against the Tunis attack, butthey did not expect that in the days immediately following the attack everyone concerned with the political initiative would be interested in trying to push it forward, with U.S. encouragement.

Reports emanating from Washington indicate that the U.S. Administration views the Air Force operation as an episode which must not cloud the chances for a political breakthrough. It was learned that Egypt and Jordan also accept this view, and that the leaders of these countries think that it was precisely the attack on the PLO headquarters which has brought 'Arafat closer to their point of view.

Rabin on 'Arafat, Middle East 'Logic', Arms Sales

TA110843 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 11 Oct 85 p 5

[Interview with Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin by defense correspondents Hirsh Goodman and Avi Hoffmann — Jerusalem Hilton Hotel, 9 October]

[Text] Defence Minister Yitzhaq Rabin looked drained and drawn when he walked into the lobby of Jerusalem's Hilton Hotel on Wednesday afternoon.

It had been quite a week, he conceded. The hijacked Italian ship was still being held by terrorists off the Egyptian coast, and Cairo had still not provided a satisfactory explanation for the murders of seven Israeli holiday-makers at the Ra's al-Burqa' beach in Sinai four days earlier. In addition, two more Israeli victims of terror, killed while on a nature walk in Mount Hebron area the week before, had just been buried.

That the security forces had wiped out the perpetrators of this and other attacks in a gunfight near Sammu' on Sunday offered little consolation. It was still unclear whether a third person found dead in the fields of Kibbutz Sarid was yet another victim of terror.

Over chocolate milk and cheese cake the minister said that he was still convinced that the decision to bomb the PLO headquarters in Tunisia last week had been a good idea. It was ridiculous, he said, to see the Italian cruise-ship incident or other major acts of terror as results of the Tunisian raid.

"You don't hijack a ship overnight. It requires time to forge passports, to plan, to collect prior intelligence. It's a question of a long time of preparation," he said.

"This act was not responsive. It is part of a process that has been evolving for a year-and-a-half, ever since the PLO made a policy decision to step up terror."

When it was pointed out that the PLO had denied any connection to the hijacking, and that it made no sense for 'Arafat to hijack an Italian vessel after the Italians had been the most vociferous critics of the Israeli Air Force raid on the PLO headquarters in Tunisia, Rabin replied that he would not be at all surprised if 'Arafat was, indeed, connected to the hijacking.

"It is very significant," he said, "that neither the Syrians nor the Palestine Liberation Front claimed responsibility for the boat hijacking. If they had been behind it," he continued, "they would have," implying that the PLO was implicated.

"Anyway," he added with a smile, "as Ted Koppel pointed out to 'Arafat when he interviewed him on American television this morning, why should we believe him ('Arafat) now? He always denied any connection with Black September, and now we know this to be absolutely untrue."

There was also little logic in 'Arafat using a British subject to murder three Israelis in Larnaca a few days after the PLO had been officially invited to visit England, "but there is absolutely no doubt whatsoever, none at all, that the PLO was responsible for the Larnaca murders."

"Logic is not a dominant factor in the Middle East," he said. If people had listened to his logic, "there would have been peace 37 years ago."

"In a terrorist organization, where all means are legitimate and there is dissent from within, situations can get out of hand. There are occasions when you lose control of even those close to you, or supposedly under your command.

"Whoever initiates terror has to live with the side effects," he said, pointing out that it was easier to start than to stop.

The start came 18 months ago, he said, when 'Arafat's wing of the PLO decided to escalate terror against Israelis. "Their first attempts were from the sea, and those failed." Then they attempted to land in Lebanon and infiltrate across the border to commit acts of mass murder. These failed too. So they moved to Larnaca, he said.

"They spent 11 months planning and training a murder squad in Algeria to land in Tel Aviv and kill as many people as possible" — an attempt that was thwarted when the Israel Navy sank the *Atavirus* earlier this year. Eight of the terrorists were captured and 20 killed in the action.

Rabin again, as he has done often in recent weeks, pointed an accusing finger at Jordan vis a vis terror. While the king condemned terror from the podium of the UN General Assembly, he said, he justified acts of "national liberation" against the occupiers of conquered territory.

"Husayn does as much as he can to stop over-the-border terror. To the best of his capabilities, he prevents shelling, rockets and infiltration across his own border, but at the same time he allows the PLO in Amman to recruit, fund and encourage terrorists to act against Israelis in the West Bank and Gaza," he said.

What effect did the air strike against the PLO in Tunisia have on the developing diplomatic process? According to Rabin, it had no negative impact at all. There had been absolutely no reaction from Jordan, he said — "not for good nor for ill."

He was dubious, however, about the phrase "developing diplomatic process." When pressed on whether he considered that Husayn's statements in the United States represented real movement towards peace or whether this was a tactic in his campaign to win congressional approval for American arms sales to Jordan, Rabin replied that he did not want to "pass judgment on Husayn."

"It is not the words that are of interest to me," he said, "but the deeds. In my opinion, Jordan has not decided to engage in a diplomatic process that will lead to direct neogtiations.

"In fact," he continued, "the king has done the opposite. He has imposed conditions that make progress impossible."

These conditions, according to the minister, include a demand that 'Arafat be party to any talks, and that the Soviet Union act as co-chairman of any conference. "Husayn did not say, 'Let's get together and talk.'

"We are prepared to talk at any time and in any place. We said we were prepared to talk to a joint Jordanian-Palestinian list, but not with the PLO," said Rabin.

"U.S. Assistant Secretary of State (Richard) Murphy came to this region and said that he was prepared to meet with four out of the seven Palestinians on the list. He (Murphy) wanted just one thing — that the talks lead to a preparatory working group that would discuss the modalities for future negotiations.

"Murphy was not talking about negotiations, but rather a working group to explore the possibilities. Husayn answered with a flat 'no,' thus blocking Murphy's mission."

Meanwhile, he said, Husayn and the other Arab states were due to receive billions of dollars in new and sophisticated arms.

"I am absolutely opposed to these sales as a matter of principle," he said. "I am speaking from the point of view of Israel. And from our point of view, I am against Arab countries that are not at peace with Israel becoming stronger."

The only country in the Middle East to have cut its defence spending in recent years, he said, was Israel.

"Our Arab neighbours have increased their spending on weapons. In the past six weeks alone, Britain has sold Saudi Arabia and Jordan around $4 billion in arms, and the Americans are proposing between $1.5 and $1.9 billion more arms for Jordan — a total of between $5.5 to $6 billion in just six weeks."

It was true, he continued, that Israel was not at present faced with a united Arab front because of the Iraq-Iran war and peace between Israel and Egypt. But political changes in the region could rapidly change this balance.

Rabin was particularly harsh in his criticism of the United States role in "escalating" the arms race. Could he not sympathize with America's policy of arming moderate, pro-Western Arab regimes?

"We cannot influence the Soviet Union, but we can expect the Americans to be consistent with their declared policy of maintaining the balance of power in this region," he replied.

"There are even those in the administration who counsel that Israel should maintain an edge, rather than allowing the arms race to be accelerated by the U.S.," he said.

Rabin rejected U.S. arguments that Jordan is faced with a multiple threat. Conceding that he was looking at the situation from Israel's point of view, he said that "the only potential threat to Jordan is Syria — and then only if Jordan enters the peace process.

"The big difference between the proposed package to Jordan and those that were supplied to Egypt," he said, "was that at the time President al-Sadat was actively involved in a process of reconciliation. First there were disengagement agreements and then the Camp David accords. This is not at all the case with Jordan," he said emphatically.

Given the type of weapons flowing into the region, Rabin said he would not be able to cope with the developing threat given the present defence budget: "With the injection of war-planes like Tornados for Saudi Arabia and F-16s or F-20s for Jordan, I will have to ask for more money and also for more aid from the Americans," he said.

Did he believe the Americans would be sympathetic to such a request? He replied candidly that he had no idea.

"All I know," he said, "is that the request will have to be made."

IDF Intelligence Chief on Increased Terror Attacks

TA101919 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] The IDF chief of intelligence has confirmed that the number of terrorist attacks in the territories and in Israel has increased. In the past year there were 660 attacks in which 18 people were killed and 150 wounded. In contrast, in the previous year there were 380 attacks in which 10 people were killed. The increase in attacks is basically due to the PLO presence in Jordan which has eased the transfer of weapons and instructions.

ASL Commander Notes Recent Drop

TA101553 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1345 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Antoine Lahd, the commander of the army of southern Lebanon [ASL], has said that attacks against the ASL have decreased over the past month. General Lahd also noted that Palestinian terrorist activity in southern Lebanon is very limited because the Palestinians are busy dealing with their internal affairs. Our Arab affairs correspondent Eldad Beck notes that the security strip is the most secure area in all of Lebanon and that even the ASL headquarters itself was surprised by the army's capability and the way it has operated since the IDF's withdrawal to the international border.

Spain Again Postpones Establishing Diplomatic Ties

TA101337 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 10 Oct 85 p 3

["Exclusive" report from France by Gid'on Kuts]

[Text] Paris — Spain is again postponing the establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel, the excuse this time being the Israeli raid in Tunisia.

In response to remarks by the Qatari ambassador in Madrid, the Spanish prime minister said that the Israeli operation is of such a nature as to prevent the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Earlier a Spanish source had told *DAVAR* that the Israeli raid would serve as an excuse for another postponement in the establishment of relations. The Spanish foreign affairs minister recently promised that these relations would be established "before elections in Spain" in the fall of 1986.

FRG To Oppose Suspension of Israel Talks With EEC

TA101054 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Germany has informed Israel it will not agree to any postponement of the negotiations between the EEC and Israel over the terms of commerce after Spain's and Portugal's incorporation in the EEC. German governmental sources have told our correspondent Gid'on Remez that, in Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher's talks in Jerusalem, he explained that Ger-

many will raise its opposition in the EEC institutions following their announcement of a suspension of the negotiations.

In Genscher's opinion, the agreement to negotiate with Israel was included in the understanding that permitted the expansion of the EEC. He says the arrangement with Israel must be completed by the expected date of Spain's and Portugal's incorporation on 1 January.

Genscher Discusses Proposed Saudi Weapons Factory

TA101143 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0720 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] The West German foreign minister has explained to Acting Foreign Minister Moshe Arens that his government has not given its approval for the establishment of a munitions factory in Saudi Arabia. German companies are permitted to submit bids, it is true, but even if they win them, the final approval will depend on the political situation at that time. This has been reported to our correspondent Gid'on Remez by German sources. They pointed out that, at the same time, Genscher said he would not be able to veto the European Tornado aircraft deal, a deal between Britain and Saudi Arabia.

ASL Soldier Killed by Terrorists Near Bint Jubayl

TA101138 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] A soldier from the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] was killed at dawn by terrorist fire in the security zone. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that a terrorist squad from the Shi'ite area north of the security strip attacked an ASL position near Bint Jubayl, using RPG's and automatic weapons fire. One of the soldiers was killed and another wounded. The ASL soldiers returned fire.

Explosion in Tel Aviv, One Person Wounded

TA110842 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0834 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Text] An explosive charge went off a short time ago at Hahaluzim Street, on the corner of Derekh Yafo in Tel Aviv. So far, we have learned from Magen David Adom [emergency medical services] that one person was wounded in the explosion. A medical team is on the scene and the police are also there. It is not yet clear whether the explosion is politically or criminally motivated.

HA'ARETZ Says 'Arafat Adheres to Terrorism

TA101539 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 10 Oct 85 p 7

[Commentary by Dan Margalit: " 'Arafat Yes and No"]

[Text] In their desire to ease the pressure on 'Arafat, his associates have said that his hands did not spill Jewish blood in the recent Palestinian terrorist waves. In Israel and in the West their version — that " 'Arafat's enemies" or "local groupings of terrorists" in Judaea and Samaria are responsible for the attacks — has spread. Only rarely is the PLO leader forced to admit that his men are the murderers, as was the case in Larnaca. Mostly he denies his responsibility for terrorist acts. Prime Minister Shim'on Peres revealed on the "Moqed" television show that 'Arafat does not hesitate to lie on the issue of his responsibility for acts of murder, even when Israel has all proof to the contrary.

Italian politicians have compared the victims of the Israel Air Force attack in Tunisia — an attack whose usefulness can be doubted — to the victims of the Nazis. And even before it was known who hijacked the *Achille Lauro*, Rome announced that 'Arafat's enemies were responsible. They did not even deem it necessary to explain the following contradiction: If the hijackers were 'Arafat's enemies, why did Italy think he had a good chance to free the hostages from their clutches?

We must closely examine the claim spread by 'Arafat, because it might have far-reaching ramifications. In the short term this is a convenient claim for the terrorist organization, because it lessens its embarrassment, but in the long term it might backfire on the PLO. Until now there has been a large camp of Israeli moderates who supported negotiations with 'Arafat — not because they like him, but because the Palestinian people see him as its legitimate representative. In the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, as well as in Arab conferences, it was declared that 'Arafat is king of the Palestinians. This justified viewing him as a candidate to negotiations, on the condition that he recognizes Israel's right to exist as a Jewish state and puts an end to terrorism.

Now there is room to doubt this. With so many terror waves indiscriminately hitting at Jews in Israel and abroad, there is room to doubt whether 'Arafat is indeed the representative with whom Israel should negotiate. Perhaps he has lost control over his people? Perhaps the Palestinians have become even more extreme than their leader? Perhaps the increase in murderous attacks testifies to the fact that the Arabs of the territories and the Palestinian diaspora do not accept the agreement between Husayn and the PLO leadership? This trend of extremism may have received an additional dimension: 'Arafat is not willing to join the Jordanian king's peace move, but even this extreme stand is not enough for a large segment of the public he claims to represent, and they demand of him more fighting, terrorism, and blood.

People in Israel point to a discernible trend of extremism among the Jewish public. This is received with deep sorrow in many circles, but the process and its causes can be easily explained in light of the above. At the same time we should take a look at the eastern side of the Green Line and realize that a similar process, perhaps an even more alarming one, is taking place in the Palestinian arena.

Whether this finds expression in the organization of local cells in poor villages in Judaea or in the awakening of organizational branches in Damascus which are part of the PLO is not the main issue. These two kinds of terrorism add up to one political fact which casts doubt on the authenticity of 'Arafat's leadership, despite his rejectionism and extremism.

However, the situation seems to be different. It is likely that 'Arafat initiates and inspires terrorism, even when this or that operation is not the result of a direct order from him. He still has political power, and it is not a mere accident that he remained silent when Husayn strongly condemned any form of terrorism.

The recent error wave cannot be seen as no more than a spontaneous murderous eruption. During the rule of the Likud, the PLO carried out murderous attacks (the coastal highway massacre), but they were less intensive than now. Before the Lebanon war the PLO even took upon itself to avoid attacks along the northern border, and this was the main argument against the war initiative of Menahem Begin's government. 'Arafat has escalated terrorism just when Husayn took a significant step toward negotiations, and at a time when the Israeli Government is headed by a man who is striving to thaw the political freeze.

The Peres-Husayn team is a real threat to 'Arafat, and therefore he is interested in promoting the tension, hostility, hatred, and bloodshed, following which nobody will talk of peace, but only of revenge. The danger of peace did not hover over 'Arafat when Begin and Yitzhaq Shamir were at the helm and when Husayn was waiting inertly for the Palestinians' okay. Now the situation is different. 'Arafat, who has grown weaker following the Lebanon war, unwillingly gave Husayn permission to opt for the pathof peace. Now 'Arafat wants to plant mines along this path. However, playing the role of Husayn's partner, he cannot admit to having carried out the attacks, and therefore he increasingly uses the excuse that the PLO has no control over those who hijack vessels and murder couples.

These excuses cannot change the picture as far as Israel is concerned. The government had no intention of acquiescing to any proposal meant to bring about the release of the *Achille Lauro* in exchange for Palestinian terrorists jailed in Israel, while it is clear that Rome will continue to praise 'Arafat. Israel's test will continue to be a determined struggle against terrorism, while at the same time expressing willingness to negotiate with whoever the Palestinians consider to be their representative, on the condition that he stops murdering and recognizes Israel's right to exist. It is the Palestinian's affair whether it is Husayn, 'Arafat, Ilyas Frayj, or a terrorist from the village of Surif who has repented. It is a pity, though, that the Israeli Government, while brandishing the long arms of the General Security Services, does not at the same time promote the Yariv-Shemtov formula [peace plan calling for territorial compromise].

ALGERIA

Bendjedid Returns From 1-Day Tunisia Visit

LD101920 Algiers Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] The head of state returned to Algiers late this afternoon following his visit to Tunisia. Four themes were at the center of the Algerian-Tunisian talks: the development of bilateral relations, the situation in the region, the latest developments in the Arab arena, and issues of joint interest. The president of the repubic, who arrived in the Tunisian capital this morning at the head of an important delegation, received the chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, Yasir 'Arafat, during the afternoon.

Tunisia's Mzali Addresses FLN Meeting 29 Sep

PM091535 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 30 Sep 85 p 3

[M'hammedi Bouzina report: "Working Together for Peace and Development"]

[Excerpts] Mohamed Mzali, Destourian Socialist Party secretary general and Tunisian prime minister and interior minister, delivered a major speech yesterday afternoon in the Ibn Khaldoun hall to the members of the FLN Central Committee Permanent Secretariat and cadres and party members from the Algiers region.

The meeting was chaired by Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the Politburo, and head of the Central Committee Permanent Secretariat. Abdelhamid Brahimi, candidate member of the Politburo and prime minister also attended.

Turning to the question of the great Maghreb, the Tunisian prime minister specified that the building of the great Maghreb is not an empty slogan. All aspects of culture, language, religion, and history argue in favor of the great Maghreb. And we must build it because it is essential in the difficult modern times which are dominated by unfair trade. "The great Maghreb as a viable economic entity is the only way of providing our peoples with a better life and enabling us to discuss with the great powers on an equal footing," Mr Mzali stressed.

That is why, Mr Mzali stressed, it is the duty of all Maghreb leaders to campaign and work side by side to achieve this ideal. Work and militantism must be a dynamic practice in commercial exchanges and mutual cooperation in all spheres. The great Maghreb cannot be built by decisions taken at the top. Quite the reverse, it must take into consideration the peoples' legitimate aspirations in a dialogue between the grassroots and the top. This is true for Algeria and Tunisia, which have taken satisfactory steps in cooperation under the leadership of President Chadli Bendjedid and President Habib Bourguiba.

"Since President Bendjedid's visit to Tunisia on 18 March 1983, we have taken satisfactory steps. This success is due to the mutual trust between the two presidents and their desire to work together. And, I repeat, our cooperation is exemplary of South-South cooperation."

Turning next to the question of relations between the Northern and Southern countries, Mohamed Mzali explained that "the unequal trade that characterizes international relations can only be stamped out if the Third World countries unite into big economic entities and develop South-South cooperation."

The Tunisian prime minister then gave several examples of trade between Third World countries and specified that Algeria and Tunisia have decided to develop their commercial exchanges with India with regard to phosphates, gas, and technology....

"I am convinced, as is my friend and colleague Abdelhamid Brahimi, that our fight against underdevelopment is right. This is why victory is inevitable. Our cause is just and we are committed until victory is won," Mohamed Mzali specified.

LIBYA

Pro-Al-Qadhdhafi Tunisian Group Comments on Raid

EA101257 Nairobi THE KENYA TIMES in English 10 Oct 85 p 9

["Advertisers announcement:" headlined "A Statement by the Tunisian Arab Revolutionary Committee's Movement Concerning the Raid on the PLO Headquarters in Tunis"]

[Text] In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful. Against them make ready your strength to the utmost of your power, including steeds of war, to strike terror into (the hears of) the enemies, of God and your enemies, and others besides, whom you may now know, but whom God doth know. God Almighty speaks the truth.

The predictions of the leader of the Arab revolution (Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi) have turned out to be true when he stressed on more than one occasion that the train of death loaded in America will attack you suddenly one after another, men, women, children and the elderly without exception.

When opportunity avails itself, it will direct its shattering blows against the Arab existence without distinction between one regime and another, regardless of whether it is a submissive reactionary regime or a revolutionary progressive one. They will be blows which cannot be deterred because of our Arab situation reflected infragmentation division and being broken up into small groups. Thus continuously the leader of the revolution has been warning the masses of the Arab nation, with his accustomed honesty and sincerity, against the ambitions of Zionism and American imperialism, with which it is allied strategically, for the destruction of the national existence of the Arab nation, because it is aware that the Arab-Zionist conflict is a conflict of survival and not a conflict over borders.

It has always been urging it to threaten the pygmy-sized entities of the reactionary Arab regimes, loyal American imperialism

and Zionism with popular revolution, since the revolution is capable of destroying the Zionist train of death. At the same time the leader of the Arab revolution keeps on warning all the Arab rulers who pay homage to the American black house in a humbled state and tumbling over one another to declare their allegiance to their master, Reagan, as a confirmation of their subordination, cringing and surrender. The latest of them is the despicable Husayn, the offspring of treachery and agentry who declared unashamedly his recognition of the Zionist gang, the so-called Israel, in return for American protection for his rotten throne.

It is the protection sought out by all the prostrate Arab leaders including that doyen of agentry, Bourguiba, the offspring of Jewishness, who, the terrorist American administration had promised to support his repressive regime and protect him from any internal popular move or any external aggression in return for his hostility to the Jamahiriyah regime of Libya and stand against the unionist trends of the First of September Revolution and its leader. The rabid information campaign being waged by his mercenary media for weeks against the Jamahiriyah, its revolution and leader is the truest evidence for this.

However events - the latest being the attack carried out by Zionist planes ont he capital Tunis in broad daylight - have confirmed that America, with all its power and military weight, stands on the side of the Zionist gang since the raiding aircraft flew from American military vessels stationed in the Mediterranean Sea opposite the Tunisian Arab shores and which America claims are for the protection of Tunisia and its sovereignty.

Thus terrorist America has struck its protectorate Tunis because its interest, which is the same as that of the Zionist gang, necessitated the carrying out of such terrorist action making a fool of the rulers of Tunisia who attached their hopes on it. The Tunisian media used to be proud and brag about this, day and night, and now they have fallen silent following that horrible attack in an attempt to conceal it so as not to arouse America's wrath. This feeble stand definitely arouses doubt and invites speculation, for how can the raiding aircraft penetrate the Arab Tunisian airspace and strike their targets without being resisted by the air defence or pursued by Tunisian aircraft?

Thus the Arab masses of Tunisia made scores of sacrifices as a price for the surrender and submission of their rulers to the American state of terrorism. They will pay more and more in sacrifices and suffering unless they put an end to the plotting of their agent rulers with imperialism and Zionism against their security, stability and future. The responsibility for this plotting falls, above all, on those treacherous rulers who have misled them to believe that their interest is bound with that of the boss of terrorism in the world - the United States - and not in Arab unity advocated by the First of September Revolution which the Tunisian mercenary news media are attempting to portray as an enemy.

The Tunisian Arab revolutionary committees movement warns, on its part, the Arab Tunisian masses that imperialism and Zionism hope to realise an objective by this surprise attack, namely the transformation of Tunisia into a new Lebanon, particularly after Zionist presence in it has penetrated government and party organisations and succeeded in exploiting them to further world Zionist goals.

The Tunisian Arab Revolutionary Committee's movement stresses that the immediate and decisive response to the scornful attitude of the Zionist gang, backed by terrorist America, towards the Arab nation, lies in the elimination of the submissive Arab rulers who have made the land and the throne fair game for imperialism and Zionism.

It appeals to the Arab masses, in general, and in Tunis, in particular, to declare a popular revolution against these feeble rulers in order to recover for the great Arab nation its esteem.

It believes that it is the masses alone who are capable of protecting their land and defending their own existence and gains against any aggression. They alone are capable of cleansing the Arab homeland of reaction, imperialism and Zionism.

The Tunisian Arab Revolutionary Committee's movement appeals to the Arab masses in Tunis to adhere to the unionist Jirbah Declaration and struggle with violence and force to have its articles implemented because the unity of the popular masses in Tunisia and Libya will help rescue the masses from the state of dangerous collapse imposed on them by the renegade and agent regime dominating them in Arab Tunisia. It stresses in particular that the popular masses in Tunisia and their storming instrument are capable of demolishing the throne of treachery and agentry to avenge Arab honor violated by the enemies of Arabism and Islam.

We call on you our popular masses in Tunis to leash your vengeance against the agents of Zionism and Colonialism. Forward, the revolutionary struggle continues.

[Signed] The Tunisian Arab Revolutionary Committee's Movement.

MOROCCO

Cultural Affairs Minister Visits Turkey

For reportage on the visit to Turkey by Moroccan Cultural Affairs Minister Mohamed Benaissa, including his 9 October meetings with Turkish President Kenan Evren and Culture and Tourism Minister Mukerrem Tascioglu, see the Turkey section of the 11 October Western Europe *DAILY REPORT*, and subsequent issues.

SUDAN

Daf'allah Confers With National Alliance

JN101050 Khartoum SUNA in English 1013 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Khartoum, Muharram, 25, Oct. 18 (SUNA) -- Prime Minister al-Jazuli Daf'allah yesterday conferred with the Secretariat of the National Alliance for the salvation of the country.

The meeting discussed national issues and the relationship between the Alliance and the Council of Ministers.

The conferees agreed on the necessity of intensifying contacts between the alliance and the council of Ministers and decided that the secretariat and Premier al-Jazuli Daf'allah meet weekly.

Attorney General 'Umar 'Abd al-'Ati and culture and Information Minister Muhammad Bashir Hamid attended the meeting.

The national allaince for the salvation of the country grouping the political parties and the professional trade unions.[sentence as received] It was formed during the popular drive that put down the era of former President Ja'far Numayri on April. 6.

Daf'allah Comments on Transitional Constitution
JN101537 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 10 Oct (SUNA) -- In a statement following the signing of the transitional period constitution during the meeting between the Council of Ministers and the Transitional Military Council here today, Prime Minister Dr al-Jazuli Daf'allah said the constitution defines the authorities, course, and objectives during the transitional period. He added that the signing of the constitution is a historic occasion and proof of the harmony between the two councils. He pointed out that the constitution has come in accordance with the Sudanese people's hopes and aspirations. It is based on the charters they had opted for -- charters expressed in the 1956 Constitution, which was amended in 1964 and later in 1985 and transferred revolutionary legitimacy to constitutional legitimacy -- thus giving the government institutions represented by the two councils their constitutional character.

TMC Member on Transitional Constitution, South
EA102059 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Major General Fabian Agang Long, Transitional Military Council [TMC] member, has stressed that the constitution for the transitional period, which was signed this morning, enshrines the basic rights of the Sudanese citizen and ensures decentralised and regional government for the south. Referring to the present situation in the south, he said that a solution to its problems is not dependent on John Garang. Rather, it is fundamentally dependent on the southerners inside the country and the political forces in the north and south that bear the responsibility for approving the system of government, he said. He stressed that there areinternational and regional forces that are interfering with the problem of the south to their own ends, despite the fact that the problem is in reality an internal problem.

Chief of Staff on Garang's Support, Other Issues
JN101111 Khartoum SUNA in English 1010 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Khartoum, Muharram. 25, Oct. 10, (SUNA) -- John Garang's headquarters is based inside Ethiopia and supplies are still reaching him from there contrary to claims from that country that it has stopped supporting his movement, TMC member and Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Muhammad Tawfiq Khalil said in interview to be published by the Kuwaiti daily *AL-ANBA'*.

Khalil told the newspaper that Garang's forces benefit militarily from jungles and villages in the areas of the fighting, but he didn't explain how.

He said Garang's forces posed no serious challenge to the Sudanese Armed Forces.

Khalil said Sudan retained the ability to contain what he termed "internal threat." "But only concentrated efforts of the countries in the region could stem external threats," he remarked.

In reply to question about the deference accord between Sudan and Egypt, Khalil said the agreement is stipulated by the Arab League Charter and not signed to protect Numayri regime.

The chief of staff confirmed that there is no Sudanese soldier fighting now in the Gulf war between Iran and Iraq.

He praised the Sudanese-Kuwaiti relations and disclosed that there are military relations between the armies of the two countries particularly in the field of mutual training and exchange of expertise between the two sides.

Foreign Minister Supports Arab Summit Convocation
GF110902 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0750 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 11 Oct (WAM) -- Sudanese Foreign Minister Ibrahim Taha Ayyub has emphasized that the call that UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan made to discard Arab differences and settle disputes is right and that this call has gained importance after the Israeli aggression against the PLO headquarters in Tunis.

In a statement published by the UAE newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD* today, the Sudanese foreign minister said the current situation requires unity. He expressed support for convening an extraordinary summit conference or a foreign ministers' conference to discuss Egypt's return to the Arab fold. He said Sudan has not received Algeria's invitation in this regard. Egypt's estrangement has greatly harmed the Arab nation and its return is very important in order to face this critical stage in its modern history, he said.

SPLA Official Denies Involvement in Mutiny
EA101732 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] The Arabic service of Radio SPLA has conducted an interview with Comrade Yusuf Kuwwah, a senior Sudanese People's LiberationArmy-Sudanese People's Liberation Movement [SPLA-SPLM] member, on current issues and the recent unfounded accusation by the Transitional Military Council [TMC] that the SPLA-SPLM was involved in the mutiny of 25 and 26 September 1985. Comrade Yusuf Kuwwah told Radio

SPLA that news of the incident, in which he was among those [word indistinct] unjustifiably implicated by the TMC, reached him through some foreign radio stations at a time he was thousands of miles away from the African Continent on an official SPLA-SPLM delegation touring a number of countries. Comrade Yusuf Kuwwah added further that there was no link at all between the SPLA and Yaqub Ismail, who is not a member of the movement and with whom the last contact took place a complete year ago. We do not know anything about his whereabouts, Comrade Yusuf said.

The fabrication by the TMC that the SPLA-SPLM was involved in the incident of September is a plan through which the TMC aims to impose its control on the country and liquidate the gains of the April popular insurrection by undermining first popular support for the SPLA-SPLM and in the end deal a fatal blow to all Sudan's political forces. This dangerous step, Comrade Yusuf Kuwwah noted, has come after the dismal failure of the TMC'S huge military offensive against the SPLA and he further called on Sudan's political forces to remain alert to the conspiracies of the TMC, which are aimed at democracy in Sudan.

At the end of his talk Comrade Yusuf Kuwwah demanded the immediate and unconditional release of all civilians who are detained by the TMC in the wake of the September incident. He further called on Sudan's political forces to strive toward finding a common forum, from which they could arrive at a formula for solution of the fundamental problems facing the country as the only exit out of its political crisis.

TUNISIA

Reportage on Egyptian Plane Carrying Hijackers

Tunis Landing Rights Refused

NC111128 Paris AFP in English 1123 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Text] Oct 11 (AFP) -- Tunisia refused yesterday evening to give landing rights to the Egyptian plane carrying the four Palestinians who hijacked the Italian liner *Achille Lauro*, officials said here today.

"The Tunisian Government just said 'no' to the last-minute request from Cairo," said an official who asked not to be named. There had been no preliminary request and "there had been no negotiations," the source said.

U.S. fighters later intercepted the plane and forced it to land at an air base in Sicily.

U.S. Action Reported

LD110740 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 0600 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Text] Last night four U.S. military aircraft forced an Egyptian Boeing airplane that was carrying the four pirates who hijacked the Italian ship to land in a base in Sicily. They were handed over today at dawn to the Italian authorities.

Mzali: 'Terrorists' Will Never Be Accepted

LD110155 Rome International Service in English 0100 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali told the Italian News Agency that "we would never accept terrorists, whoever they are, on our territory."

Es-Sebsi's U.S. Talks Concentrate on Israeli Raid

LD101149 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Foreign Affairs Minister Beji Caid es-Sebsi paid a short visit to Washington early this week. While in the U.S. capital he held talks with Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger; Secretary of State George Shultz; Richard Lugar, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee; and Dante Fascell, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives.

It has been learned from informed sources that Beji Caid es-Sebsi's talks concentrated on the Israeli aggression against Tunisia and the stand of the American Administration.

It has also been learned that the senior American officials expressed their determination to continue the U.S. policy of friendship and cooperation toward Tunisia, stressed their respect for President Habib Bourguiba, and expressed their appreciation of his wise policies and for Tunisia's moderate stances adopted on the international arena.

Algerian President Holds Talks During 1-Day Visit

LD102309 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Excerpts] The visit by the head of state today to Tunis was a 1-day brotherly and working visit during which the two presidents, Habib Borguiba and Chadli Bendjedid reviewed the latest developments and the problem of security in the Mediterranean following the Israeli aggression against Tunisia.

President Chadli Bendjedid also had talks with the PLO leader in Tunis. They spoke in particular about the implications of the Israeli aggression against the PLO headquarters. Following the meeting 'Arafat said that certain vitally important and essential issues had been dsicussed. President Chadli Bendjedid reiterated Algiera's constant support for the Palestinian people, he continued. The PLO leader later left Tunis for Dakar, where he will meet Senagalese President Abdou Diouf tomorrow.

ETHIOPIA

ANC's Tambo Arrives for Solidarity Meeting

EA101251 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 0900 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] A delegation headed by Comrade Oliver Tambo, ANC president, arrived in Addis Ababa this morning to take part in the international meeting of solidarity with the peoples of South Africa. The meeting will start tomorrow. Members of the British anti-racist movement, freedom organization, and a Presidium member of the Hungarian solidarity committee have also arrived to attend this meeting.

In an arrival statement in Addis Ababa, Comrade Oliver Tambo said that this meeting will make important contributions to liberation fighters, as it is being held at a time when the world community and progressive forces have been forced to put greater pressure on the racist regime, when the struggle has been intensified and when the racist regime is faced with political, economic and other crises. Comrade Oliver Tambo expressed his confidence that the meeting will help in further strengthening the struggle in Namibia and South Africa, in further isolating the racist regime and in further imposing more sanctions on it. He said that it will also help in encouraging various countries and progressive forces to further increase their support.

Comrade Oliver Tambo called on the workers of the world to isolate the racist South African regime and to take other action. He said that since the world community was giving special attention to the struggle, even the Reagan administration had been forced into a decision to impose limited sanctions against the racist regime. This was a result of the pressure applied by the U.S. people in support of this objective.

The delegation was welcomed by Comrade Yohanes Gebre Selassie, acting secretary general of the Ethiopian peace and solidarity committee.

KENYA

Mwangale Departs for NY; Condemns South Africa

EA101434 Nairobi KNA in English 1310 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Excerpts] Nairobi, Oct 10 -- The minister for foreign affairs, Mr Elijah Mwangale, left Nairobi for New York today to attend the 40th session of the UN General Assembly.

Mr Mwangale said that in collusion with certain Western countries South Africa has continued to defy with impunity resolutions of the UN on apartheid. The minister further said that South Africa continues to pollute the media with false propaganda while at the same time it commits unabated atrocities against the black majority of South Africa. In this regard Mr Mwangale told the press the forthcoming meeting of the Commonwealth in Nassau, Bahamas, will take a firmer stand on the issue of sanctions than it had taken in the past.

Citizens Warned Against Joining Fight in Uganda

EA102344 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1830 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Excerpt] The government has issued a stern warning to any persons of Ugandan origin holding Kenya citizenship who might have gone to Uganda to join the fighting there, that they would loose their citizenship and would be dealt with according to the law. The warning was issued in parliament by a minister of state in the office of the president, Mr Justus Ole Tipis, who said that if such persons were found attempting to return to Kenya they would be dealt with severely.

Mr Tipis appealed to the press to publicize this warning, so that it was well understood by everybody. The minister, who was replying to his ministry's vote after a 2-day debate, reiterated that the government was vigilant when dealing with matters touching on the security of this country. He said capable people were positioned at every entry point and would stop any undesirable elements trying to gain entry illegally. Mr Tipis dispelled claims by Mr Nahashon Njuno that there were loopholes at Kenyatta international airport. On the contrary, the minister said, his office had only received complimentary letters commending his staff there.

SOMALIA

DFSS Official Denies Presence of Foreign Troops

EA102239 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1700 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Fighter Said Muhammad Hirsi, commander of the 9th GeneralAynanshe Division of the Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia [DFSS] wing of the Somali opposition forces, who is a member of the DFSS Central Committee, has described the statement made on the BCC the day before yesterday [8 October] by the commander of the 21st Division of the loyalist troops of Siad Barre's Mogadishu Regime, Muhammad Said Morgan, as baseless propaganda aimed at soliciting urgent assistance from Western countries. In his interview on the BBC Muhammad Said Morgan, commander of the 21st Division of the loyalist troops of the fascist dictator of Mogadishu, said that the Galdogob and Balamballe areas are occupied by foreign troops.

The commander of the 9th General Aynanshe Division of the DFSS said that Morgan's statement was baseless and a sign that the Mogadishu regime has given up hope of ever recovering the two areas of Galdogob and Balamballe, which were liberated by the DFSS in July 1982. The commander of the 9th General Aynanshe Division of the DFSS said that more areas will soon be liberated. Eventually, the whole country will be liberated.

SMN Claims 21 Government Troops Killed 2 Oct

EA102058 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia 1700 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] On 2 October Units of the Somali National Movement [SNM] wing of the Somali opposition forces launched an attack

on the enemyforces stationed at (Ceydarus) in Gabiley District, killing 21 soldiers and wounding 13 others. The reports add that the enemy base was completely burned down. The SNM fighters suffered one martyr killed and one fighter wounded.

TANZANIA

Nyerere Calls for Party Unity in Zanzibar

EA102040 Dar es Salaam External Service in English 1600 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Zanzibar: The chairman of CCM [Chama Cha Mapinduzi], Mwalimu Nyerere, has appealed to Zanzibar leaders to forget their affiliations to defunct political parties and instead rallybehind the party to build a united country. Mwalimu was speaking to Zanzibar party and government leaders at Kiswandui CCM office in Zanzibar at the end of his 2-day visit to the isles.

He said there were a few leaders in Zanzibar who had sided with enemies of the country's unity by making affiliations to defunct political parties of Hizbu [Zanzibar Nationalist Party], ASP [Afro-Shirazi Party], and ZPP [Zanzibar People's Party], a political issue in the forthcoming Zanzibar presidential elections. Mwalimu said Hizbu, ASP, and ZPP are all dead parties, adding that making the dead parties a political issue at this time was tantamount to taking Tanzanians back.

The party chairman said Tanzania was determined to move forward towards greater development and unity and that any leader who was trying to revive dead political parties was an enemy. Mwalimu said from now on the main duty of every Tanzanian should be to strengthen and consolidate CCM, adding that no one should accept any attempt to divide CCM.

Speaking on Sunday's Zanzibar presidential elections, Mwalimu called on Zanzibaris to give an overwhelming mandate to Ndugu Idris Abdul Wakil to lead the isles, and Ndugu Ali Hassan Mwinyi to head the union government.

UGANDA

Okello Addresses Independence Anniversary Rally

EA092319 Kampala Domestic Service in Swahili 1227 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Speech by head of state General Tito Okello Lutwa on the occasion of the 23d anniversary of independence at Kampala International Conference Center meeting attended by diplomatic corps -- live]

[Text] Ndugu Wananchi, honorable guests, members of the diplomatic corps, ladies and gentlemen:

Today we are celebrating the 23d anniversary since Uganda received its independence. Every citizen should feel proud of today's celebrations, although the ceremony today is different from those held in past years. Today's ceremony is low key, and there is a reason for it. Today is a big day for all the people of Uganda, a day when they see for themselves that 9 October was the day when the country received its independence. Why, then, should these celebrations be low key?

You understand the current problems. There are other problems afflicting the country. However, the Military Council is dealing with them. [Words indistinct] peace. How does peace [words indistinct]. Brothers, I would like to explain the reasons that led the armed forces to stage a coup against the elected government on 27 July. The armed forces took that step to stop bloodshed.

The (?elected) government of the time and its leader were shedding much blood among you citizens and patriots. In addition to that, the present government is against bloodshed. They did it and they prevented it. After that, there are groups that were fighting the former Obote government. The military government called on all citizens living in the bush and elsewhere to return to their homes in Uganda so that they could build a new Uganda.

At this point, patriots, I would like to mention a few issues that have not been publicized.

The military government felt that it was unwise to live in exile and that it was unnecessary for people to live in exile when they had a home. And the Military Council decided that patriots should return to their country. I told the patriots to return home. And there was a reason for this -- not that when I made the call, some of those in exile were not guilty of crimes. [pauses] They are coming, but those who commited crimes in the country will be dealt with in accordance with the law. The law will deal with that. Therefore, patriots and guests, if you discover those guilty of crime report them to the police.

On 27 July, after toppling the government, we called upon all our colleagues to sit together and unite, but one of our colleagues, and others who call themselves the National Resistance Army [NRA] did not come. They did not come forward to join hands with the government. For this reason, the NRA is not with us, whether they are citizens or not.

We, the soldiers of the Military Council, did not want to continue spilling blood in Uganda today and tomorrow, and so on. You understand this. You who are in front of me understand, and you understand this fully. There has been more bloodshed in Uganda than in any other country. Since Uganda attained its independence in 1962, the population of Uganda has not increased. The population of Uganda is not increasing. Why? It is because blood is continuously being spilled. If Uganda's independence came when you were more than 13 or 14 years old, you would appreciate the amount of blood spilled since 1962.

I and the Military Council have never wanted this. But that movement which calls itself the NRA continues to spill blood. Perhaps, they do not realize what blood is. I appreciate the fact that you understand what spilling blood entails. When blood spills, people get killed. It is people who die. A bullet does not strike a soldier alone, it does not hit the soldier alone. When a shot is fired from there, it would not kill me alone -- it would kill someone else as well.

Distinguished guests, these questions are to be answered by the people of Uganda: It is upto you. I said this earlier on. Immediately after the coup I said that no bullet should be used -- Dr Obote used them -- to attack another tribe, since Obote created conflict so that soldiers may fight each other. But Obote did not realize that bullets could hit children as well as cattle or trees.

Since 27 July the Military Council had resolved that despite all this, we cannot go on fighting. Despite the invasion by the NRA of Mbarara, Mubende and so on and the invasion of army barracks, (?to lay ambushes) in water, and they also live in the surrounding areas, soldiers are returning to their barracks. [as heard] The soldiers have not attacked them, but I regret to say that, although the government broadcasts are restrained, foreign ocuntries are attacking us all the time, accusing government troops. What they broadcast through their radios is meant to give an impression that government soldiers are the ones carrying out atrocities. [Words indistinct] Such radios will come to realize later where the truth lies.

Brothers, the original aim of the fighters who fled to the bush, some with one gun, others with two, and yet others with only machetes in their hands, was to remove Obote. My brothers, if you did that, fleeing with a gun so that you could come back and kill Obote, then you were mistaken. You were mistaken. Obote had guns. You were mistaken because when you fired from the barrel of your gun aiming at Obote, you shot other people. You killed either your brother or your aunt.

Every patriot understood at the time that groups could have been formed with the aim of sitting down as a group and discussing what to do after overthrowing Obote. Many have returned, but some, as I said earlier, do not want to return although at the moment they have problems in the bush with citizens and so on. Therefore, the unfortunate thing is that they harass citizens unnecessarily. I fully appreciate that these acts are unnecessary. They are hurting us, the citizens. And your response as a citizen should be to do everything you are capable of.

The revolutonary government has tried very much to get the NRA to come for peace talks and stop bloodhsed. I sent a delegation to Tanzania, our neighboring country, but the NRA did not come. We decided to go to Kenya. I have sent delegations to Kenya three times. I have sent delegations to Kenya three times, but the NRA have not yet decided on what they want to do -- whether to remain in the bush or to hold discussions.

The revolutionary government is, however, still continuing to talk to the NRA. We still continue to talk to the NRA. Ndugu patriots, in the past I have called on the NRA on numerous occasions urging them to come forward and to hold talks as Ugandan patriots so as to give Uganda a chance to focus on future goals. They have refused.

My brothers: Conduct. Conduct should be observed always. When I refer to conduct to all of us, I do not mean conduct in the army but to all of us. That is to say conduct refers to ordinary workers and (?government) employees as well. Although the government is doing everything within its ability, citizens, the government alone cannot supervise you inside your own home. The government also protects you, but in the house -- you are the ruler in your own house. Therefore every citizen in his country realizes that he is the ruler. And therfore you strive to do your best as the owner of the house.

I understand, and the Military Council understands, the harassment caused by the NRA in all corners of the country. But we must solve the internal problem ourselves. We must solve the internal problem ourselves. Today, the military government cannot tolerate -- the military government cannot tolerate any soldier, any military man, engaging in detestable behavior. I want you patriots to understand this fully: that military men have their rules. If he does wrong there is punishment for it. He is reprimanded by his seniors. If he commits a more serious crime the central government metes out the punishment in accordance with the laws of the country.

Therefore, when you notice such crimes, do not think that there is any favoritism. Such punishment cannot be publicized -- that this person has been punished and we have taken him to court or we have punished him -- so that you may hear the mistake he made. Such is not the mormal procedure.

I wish to take this opportunity to say that the army is doing everything possible to make life pleasant in the country. [applause] All soldiers are treated according to the military regulations. There is no difference between today's army and the old one. These ones follow that they were trained to do by the old army. Which is the old army? In the old army, before 1962 we had a Uganda army, and they are the ones we followed. Therefore if there is any minor difference, then that is a kind of laxity.

Civil servants and others: Remember that the government is supporting you. Therefore, you are required to work despite some constraints. You are expected to work. Therefore, the government cannot fold its arms if you do not go to work or when you go to work late. Wake up and go to work, or you will be punished.

Ndugu patriots, the Military Council is making special arrangements to set up special committees that will involve and appraise the conduct of people at the grassroots level. This enables the people at the grassroots level -- those in the villages -- to understand their obligations for their future development. The committees will be set up by the government, but they will listen to what the people say in the villages. They will shed light on the citizens of Uganda so that they can open up their eyes and look ahead to the future and also be able to understand their [words indistinct] when the time comes. When the time comes -- and the time will come -- to elect a democratic government, they will understand. The military government is making arrangements for this. Names of those to hold these posts will be announced in the near future. The Military Council will continue with this task. When the committees are set up, they will supervise planning in every village. They will also set up subcommittees in their villages.

Brothers, I would like to say a few things about relations with neighboring countries. Uganda harbors no claims on neighboring countries -- Kenya, Tanzania, Sudan, Zaire, Rwanda, and Burundi. These are our neighbors, and we have no claims on their countries. Our demand is only one: Coexistence. We will

coexist as good neighbors, [word indistinct] of Uganda. We will not be aggressive toward our neighbors. We are not aggressive and neither do we want to be aggressed against.

Brothers, it is surprising that the same (?NRA) is creating unnecessary problems for our neighboring countries. Right now, goods and other products from a neighboring country on transit to these countries are stranded because the NRA has blocked roads. There are goods destined for these countries that have been stranded in Uganda and at the border for more than 2 months. They are using these same countries whose goods are stranded here. [sentence as heard]

[Okello delivers remainder of speech in English -- as heard throughout] Fellow citizens, I want to give you a big congratulation for our neighbor (?body) which try to give us chance to speak -- to President Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya, Mwalimu Lulius Nyerere of Tanzania. They have tried their best hard to sit and speak. But we as Ugandans, for ourselves, we must understood for our country that the leader who assisted us in order to speak. If Ugandans themselves come to an understanding it is up to Ugandans. So, I wish also to congratulate for our neighbor (?body) as regards to Zaire, Sudan, Burundi, and R w a n d a .

The problem which you have, Burundi, Rwanda, and Zaire -- it is not for the government but is the enemy of the government as the NRA. As I know, and you also know as your diplomats (?really) [word indistinct].

Brothers, I am grateful to you for listening attentively to the few words I have spoken. I, therefore, wish you best wishes and blessings on the 9th October, Uganda's independence day.

Thank you.

Army Recalls June 1985 Cadet Graduates

EA102026 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1734 GMT 10 Oct 85

["Official announcement"]

[Text] The Office of Chief of Personnel and Administration of the General headquarters of the Uganda National Liberation Army [UNLA] asks all officer cadets who attended the passing out parade in Gulu in June 1985 to report back to the same place immediately, without fail. If any one among those concerned does not report to Gulu before the 13th October 1985 he will be counted absent from the army and will lose his commission.

CHAD

News Agency Comments on French Officials' Visit

AB092307 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1845 GMT 8 Oct 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] Last week, the capital welcomed two top French officials. The visit of Mr Guy Penne, the special adviser to President Mitterrand on African affairs, and Mr Christian Nucci, the minister delegate in charge of cooperation and development, coincided with the overflight of Ndjamena and the southern part of the country by Libyan bombers.

But what is the context of the two French officials' visit, Chadians may ask? In its installment yesterday, the CHADIAN PRESS AGENCY [ATP] devoted its lead story to this question. According to ATP, and I quote, Chadians naturally assume that with the ongoing diplomatic efforts, a solution is perhaps in sight or is emerging on the horizon that will end their ordeal and the Libyan occupation of half of their territory, unquote.

On hearing the statements made by the two French officials at the end of their talks with the head of state, Chadians were somewhat disappointed. Of course, bilateral issues were at the center of the discussions between President El Hadj Hissein Habre and his two French guests. France's desire to support Chad in its development efforts was reaffirmed by Mr Nucci when he presented a consignment of off-season crop seedlings to the Ministry of Agriculture.

Chad is resolutely committed to the path of reconstruction and development by primarily counting on its own resources and then exploiting the good relations of cooperation between itself and friendly countries which, like France, will come to Chad's aid.

In its story, ATP asked if development can ever be achieved harmoniously when the Libyan (?lackeys) continue to besiege minds and thwart all efforts. It is here that the desire of the Chadian authorities to resolve the crisis through dialogue with Libya comes into play. This desire is not new; it is only the arrogance and preconditions put forward by the Libyans that have hindered the desired outcome. ATP continues: Today we find the Chadian desire renewed, although we know how the Libyans treated the French-Libyan agreement of 16 September 1984, that is, the reinforcement of Libyan military presence in the northern part of Chad following the withdrawal of the French.

In any case, the Chadian official news agency explains, this desire of Chad sincerely proves that the government of the Third Republic has not turned away from the virtues of dialogue while at the same time bearing in mind our duty to ensure Chad's sovereignty and independence.

Therefore, ATP concludes, it is important that the friends of Chad understand that the conflict is not an internal one, as we are made to believe. The Libyan occupation of half of Chad is a gross denial of this and the friends of our country must help us to regain our rights in order to permit the country's reconstruction.

ZAIRE

Mobutu Denies Reports of Brutality in Prisons

AB092235 Paris AFP in French 1452 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Text] Kinshasa, 9 Oct (AFP) — Zairian President Mobutu Sese Seko today described Amnesty International's annual report, which cited brutalities and assassinations in Zairian prisons, as a "rag."

The organization has become "discredited" by serving as a "soap box for defamatory items", the head of state declared in Kinshasa before his departure for New York where he is expected to attend the celebrations marking the 40th anniversary of the United Nations.

The head of state challenged Amnesty International to be "specific and cite names and facts in order to support its assertions," adding "that this report glaringly reflects the ignorance of those who prepared it as far as the real human rights situation in Zaire is concerned."

"Remarkable efforts have been made in Zaire to improve the condition of Zairian prisons," the official AZAP news agency remarked, citing that the International Red Cross Committee is "permanently authorized to visit prisons in all parts of the republic."

GHANA

Youth Command Statement on Soussouddis Trial

AB092114 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Text] The African Youth Command has issued a statement on the Soussouddis case, now before a U.S. Federal District Court in Virginia, U.S.A. The statement noted that the crime of the Ghanaian, Michael Soussouddis, if any at all, was that he was protecting Ghana's interest, and as such, he was not harming any American citizen, neither was he harming nor attempting to harm America's interests. The statement said the command is not in the least surprised to hear the news report of the ruling by a U.S. Federal District Court judge, Albert Bryan, that the innocent Ghanaian national be committed to trial on what are clearly false charges.

The crime of Michael Soussouddis, if any at all, was that he was protecting Ghana's interests in Ghana. He was not harming any American citizen, neither was he harming nor attempting to harm America's interests. It said even if the charges against him are true — and they are certainly not — the interpretation by the judge, not only to extend U.S. espionage law to cover acts committed outside the American territory but also to cover noncitizens of America, makes a mockery of the rule of law and internationally accepted and civilized behavior — attributes that the United States has always claimed to champion. The statement continued: It is evident from the manner in which Mr Soussouddis was tricked by the CIA into a meeting with Sharon Scranage, his girlfriend, on Wednesday, 10 July, 1985, at the Holiday Inn hotel, that the CIA was intent on playing a political game of intrigues. This is further proven by the fact that there was no evidence that Sharon was passing any secret information to him.

The statement said: The fact that Mr Soussouddis is being held as a hostage and bound both at the hands and legs with chains of steel these 90 days is unworthy of a country which calls itself Christian and which claims to be the custodian of human rights around the world, and further that it constitutes an act of international terrorism and that it was clear all along that the United States, by refusing Michael Soussouddis bail, intended to keep him as a hostage in a political game which Washington intends to play with Ghana to prevent us from succeeding in our determination to become masters of our own destiny since our success will encourage other black African countries and force the United States to confront its own discrimination against American blacks.

It said by the arrogant action of Washington, it is clear that President Reagan's condemnation of international terrorism is bogus and carries no moral authority as again exemplified by his statement on the recent Israeli raid on another African country, Tunisia. The command calls on all decent American citizens, both here in Ghana and the United States to urge their government to leave Ghana alone by stopping these diversionary and destabilizing activities so that the nation can pay attention to the grave problems of disease, hunger, and deprivation which confront the majority of our people.

Finally, the statement urges the revolutionary leadership to be careful in handling this latest provocation from the United States since it only shows that the forces of reaction in the United States are merely looking for an excuse for an open declaration to subvert our modest attempt to end the rape of our country by international and local criminals and to rule ourselves according to the lessons which our recent history has taught us.

IVORY COAST

Houphouet-Boigny Delivers Speech at Congress

AB101039 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1000 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Speech by President Felix Houphouet-Boigny to the Eighth Congress of the Democratic Party of the Ivory Coast-African Democratic Rally (PDCI-RDA) in Abidjan on 10 October — live]

[Text] My dear comrades, my dear friends, honorable delegates, militants of the PDCI-RDA: this eighth congress, which is opening 25 years after our advent as a free and independent nation, gives me the great pleasure to find you more than ever united in the service of our dear country which has been spared by political upheavals, bloody incidents, and the temptest of violence which has been experienced and continues to be experienced by our dear Africa. [Applause] We are happy and proud to enjoy an exceptional climate of peace which has enabled us to resolutely advance on the path of progress. I thank God for this as well as the entire Ivorian people, the foreign minority that is grateful for our welcome and our great party which constitutes the solid backbone of our action, the cement of our unity, the privileged and irreplaceable mainstay of our permanent dialogue in which no topic is forbidden, no opinion is rejected outright and which is wide open to all opinions, to all proposals, to all suggestions capable of allowing us to make more progress in the path of dignity, economic development, and the improvement of our structures. [Applause]

In this connection, I will not fail to perform the sacred duty of paying tribute again to the numerous founders of the party who paved the way with rare success for the young generations for whom they should be advisers and leaders. When one considers that almost half of the Ivorian population was not born at the time of our independence, I think it is very important that we should make this youth — who are the hope and certainty of a rich and fraternal Ivory Coast — to understand that Ivory Coast did not arise miraculously from nothing [applause] but that it emerged from difficult and dangerous struggles and from sacrifices, the most discrete of which were not the least. Many of their elders have disappeared before seeing the blossoming of the tree of freedom. As a tribute to all our dear departed — and with a particular thought for those who left us since the last congress — I ask you, ladies and gentlemen to observe a minute's silence in their memory. [1 minute of silence] I thank you.

I would also like to thank the representatives of the brotherly parties, and through them all those who devote themselves to the just causes of fraternity of mainkind [applause], as well as the diplomats — the eyes, ears and voices of their countries in Ivory

Coast — who show me their friendship by using their rich and varied sensitiveness to perceive and understand the joys and worries of our daily life and who are the irreplaceable relayers of information and the agents of cooperation between their governments and ours. [Applause]

I will not forget the representatives of the press, some of whom do honor to us by following through the various congresses the life of the PDCI-RDA and of Ivory Coast. I urge them to continue to convey to the media organizations which they represent a faithful image of the Ivorian reality without forgetting that the pictorial and the sensational are to serious reporting what spices and condiments are to family cooking and that they do not make things digestable through adulterated or spoiled ingredients. [Applause]

I want to take this opportunity to inform most of our guests that in this report I will certainly be silent about their preoccupations. But on the occasion of the pre-congress, I warned the participants that this year, exceptionally, we will call in newsmen from all continents — from Europe, America, Asia, and of course extensively from Africa. [Applause] During the press conference which I would precisely like to give on the occasion of their presence here at this congress of truth and maturity, I will examine all problems; I will not evade any question. [applause] We will speak of the Western Sahara, Chad, the Middle East, Iran, Iraq in order to see what the nonaligned states can do. We will naturally speak of South Africa, Namibia, and many other problems which they would like to discuss with me.

So, this morning, I am talking first of all to the country, to the hinterland. But since I will soon be 80 years old, I think that God will hear your prayers. [Applause] I have been discrete for a long time because it was necessary. But during this congress, and the press conference, I would like to tell my countrymen what I have discretely done on their behalf in order to serve one thing: peace and fraternity. [Applause]

During this eighth congress, which is taking place at a time when we are marking our 25th anniversary, we cannot fail to present a balance-sheet of our activities in the political, economic and social fields, in the domain of our relations with other African countries as well as with the rest of the world since we acceeded to national and international sovereignty. In the political field, after our glorious years of our political struggle for independence, the party has experienced a period of sluggishness. Some officials, at all levels, placed their own interests before the general interest [applause]. Relations between the officials and the grass roots were difficult. This is why, in order to avoid the disorganization of our great party of the emancipating struggle, the seventh congress decided to effect a change and still maintain stability. This has been accomplished. I asked the ministers to inform you about their work and the changes carried out in their departments but as president of the party, I must praise, without boasting but with pride, the remarkable results we achieved during the 25 years, in particular in the fields of agriculture and rural development. In order not to bore you, I will try to be as brief as possible. But there are some figures which I cannot hide from you because they are so significant in our indisputable march on the path of development.

In the economic and financial field, first of all, we want to stress that despite some disappointments we encountered in our choice of a liberal policy, we will persist in the path of economic liberalism. [Applause] It will not be wild liberalism but a reasonably controlled one.

The new structure of the party's leadership since our last congress and which provided for a president and an executive committee, enabled us — with the assistance of the Political Bureau, the Steering Committee, the sectional secretaries general and the valiant Ivorian people — to face the strongest crisis in our history and even to continue our progress in all the areas where it was humanly possible. If for 20 years we have experienced an exceptional progress, distressing obstacles have blocked our way during the last 5 years, obstacles against which our own means of struggle were very limited. These obstacles were, in particular, the world inflation, against which we could not do anything and which the industrialized countries have just begun to overcome. This inflation has considerably increased the cost of our imports. To this inflation must be added the high rate of the dollar, which has doubled. Now then, the major part of our borrowings is contracted in this currency and the more expensive this currency is, the more CFA francs we must pay out to repay our debts. Credits which became rare, also became more expensive and were only granted by commercial banks at floating interest rates which continued to increase as the inflation grew. At the same time, our import expenses and our external debts increased, but not any fault of ours. As for our earnings, they were dropping. Prices of raw materials, even though expressed in dollars, also decreased in an exceptional manner. The great drought, which had violently affected our neighboring regions, also affected us, thus causing a considerable fall in the volume of our agricultural products which still form the major part of our earnings.

Thus, for example, for the 1983-84 agricultural season, we produced only 85,000 tons of green coffee as against 267,000 tons for the preceding season while our cocoa has also depreciated. At the same time, the international public aid, which represented more favorable conditions than the commercial aid, tended to dwindle. And as you know, concerning this subject, the considerable progress accomplished by our country in the economic field had for a long time already closed the door to us for loans at very favorable conditions. We thus found ourselves in a very agonizing situation and were forced to adopt rigorous measures.

As I said on the arrival of President Mitterrand, only a few nascent economies would have been able to resist such blows as the loss we endured for 2 consecutive years in a greater part of our national revenue. I would like to pay a very special tribute to the whole Ivorian people who have supported with the greatest calm the hard necessities to which they were subjected. The same glowing tribute goes to those in the cities as well as those in the countryside. The same goes to the leadership of our party which was able to explain and make the people understand and accept the measures we were forced to take to resist the bleak economic situation and to put us in the best position in order to surmount it by taking advantage of all the favorable elements as soon as they reappeared. A very careful management of our diminished resources and more favorable weather conditions leading to better harvests have indeed already enabled us to overcome the

constraints that hung over the rural people, and has enabled us to face the future with renewed confidence. [Applause]

Members of the Political Bureau and of the Steering Committee, and secretaries general of party branches: during the preparatory meeting preceding the congress in Yamoussoukro 8 days ago, we submitted an important document dealing in detail with the extremely painful measures — I would not say draconian measures — which we were obliged to take in order to improve our country's economic and financial situation. But as the tree of our difficulties, errors, and sacrifices should not hide the immense forest of our achievements since our independence, I therefore told you about the difficulties — which, moreover, we succeeded in overcoming partly thanks to God — as well as the successful results we achieved in other fields.

In order not to bore you with figures and in order not to tire our guests — pending the conclusion of my speech during which I talk more at length on the life of our party, the real situation in the country, and the relations we maintain or intend to maintain henceforth with all the international community — I ask you to allow me this morning to make a very light brief survey of the difficulties encountered first of all in the economic and financial field. I shall be brief.

In the economic and financial field, we have four sectors: the state companies, the state budget, the houses leased by government, and the admirable work accomplished by the commission in order to ascertain the exact number of our civil servants. Some of them, who had for a long time attained the retirement age, continued to serve and thus hindered the youth from being recruited. [Applause] Most of the state companies, whose bad management created a steady hemorrhage on the finances, have been abolished. [Applause] The national public companies, that were maintained and which continued to pay salaries that were sometimes two or three times superior to the salaries paid in the civil service, have had their salaries aligned with those of the civil service. [Applause] But I must also pay tribute to the spirit of abnegation of all our civil servants. For 3 years now, they have had their salaries frozen and despite this, — despite their dimished revenues — they agreed to give up 1 percent of this reduced salary in order to aid their brothers who are jobless. [Applause] The budget of the Ministry of Civil Service has been greatly reduced, particularly the development budget which has been reduced from 300 billion to 100 billion this year. As for the recurrent budget itself, it has been practically stationary for 3 years now. If the prices of our products remain what they now are, if the whims of the speculators do not come to trouble us again, we think that it would be just to resume increasing the salaries of the civil servants. [Prolonged applause]

After resisting for a long time, but because of the successive calamities of which you are aware, we have been obliged to resort to the rescheduling of our debts. But rescheduling does not mean a moratorium.

We have honored our commitments, which most developing countries, even great countries, have not done. Last year, we paid off 245 billion. [Applause] This year, we will pay roughly the same amount, if not more. But we have just informed the World Bank and the IMF — because we are almost the only country to honor our commitments [applause] — that in future talks, account must be taken of our desire not to stop the growth of the country [applause] and that we must set aside part of our resources to pursue our economic and social progress to ensure peace and freedom. That is all for the budget.

But the civil service — our young minister [applause] — has achieved a considerable task of reorganization, first of all by undertaking a clever registration of all our civil servants. As I told you, thanks to him, most of those who had hit the retirement age and who forgot that they have younger brothers or sons to be recruited as their replacements, have been retired. Better still, we had been paying for many years more than due, namely to more than 3,000 fictitious civil servants — who do not exist. [Applause] When the minister asked them to report for the registration they were conspicuous by their absence. [Applause] That is the list of our difficulties.

We will take a quick look at our successes and our achievements. First of all let us give recognition where recognition is due — to agriculture first. It is the basis of our resources. The Ivorian agriculture is characterized by its vast diversification. We have successfully achieved this diversification not only at the level of food crops but also at the level of the products used by the local industries and at the level of export crops.

We say in the Ivory Coast, and it is also being repeated often every morning: a hungry man is not a free man. [Applause] We are free because we are not hungry. Our food crops include yam, plantain cassava, rice, corn, millet; and our export crops include pineapple, sweet banana. [Applause] Let us make a distinction, my brothers! [Applause] Palm oil, coconut, rubber, cotton, that is it. This morning, I do not want to burden you with the figures; you know them. As promised, I will hand to some of you the full report. [applause] We will simply recall three figures: cotton production jumped from 6,000 tons — some people say 60,000 tons but I did not see that much — to 212,000 tons. [Applause] We rank just after Egypt and Sudan, in Africa. Coffee production, which was only 135,000 tons in 1960, has now reached 300,000 tons, making us the Third World's largest producer after Brazil and Colombia. [Applause]

But where our progress has been remarkable — and this will continue — is in the field of cocoa: with a production of 80,000 in 1960, we placed fourth after Ghana, Nigeria, and Brazil. This year, with a production of 552,000 tons, we have placed first in the world. [Applause] We must not only take stock of our achievements, we must use them to improve our future. This is the task I gave the young men of the rural development and the scientific research ministries. They must pool their efforts because we must ensure that they take over successfully from the peasant farmers. Our youths will not accept to pursue agriculture with machetes and hoes which are archaic farming implements. Our youths will not accept to produce for nonprofitable prices. Our youths want to take over from the farming peasants in the best conditions. [Applause] They know that with technical and technological progress, with computer science and others, the industrial sector will need fewer hands. The possibilities of recruitments by the administrative sector are limited. We have decided to embark upon training, but in what? I trust the youths. We must now open wide for them the doors of hope. What does

this mean? As neither the administrative sector nor the private sector is likely to take in more youth, these youths must be prepared to meet the challenges of the century. People talk a lot of the coming of the year 2000. It will not be the rendezvous of rockets and satellites. It will be the rendezvous for feeding humanity. [Applause]

Yes, with the current population, nearly 800 million people are dying of hunger. What will it be in the year 2000 when the population must have doubled? Our youths must show the way of the duty of Africans. We heard an excellent report from our brother from Niger [applause] on food self-sufficiency. This is the path we must follow, with the appropriate means. Two hundred young African agricultural graduates — they were happy and proud — came to see me in Yamoussoukro to inform me of their desire to work actively toward research, in order to increase our productivity. This is the point. It is useless to continue to say that we produce tons and tons — 500,000 tons of cocoa, 300,000 tons of coffee, 212,000 tons of what not — all this is fine. But they never tell us how many tons per hectare have been produced? Now then, the youths want to know exactly the amount they produce on every hectare and how beneficial it is. Even if tomorrow they should stop producing cocoa and coffee...[abruptly changes thought] they should know that developing countries do not produce coffee and cocoa and yet their agriculture is very prosperous and it feeds the industrial sector. Therefore, our youths, with the experts that the World Bank wants to help us to recruit, will be able to increase the productivity of all our food products. But that is not all. They are also working for the preservation of these products.

But better still, they are working to process our agricultural products on the spot. [Applause] We are sure that there will be markets for them. There is no speculation on our agricultural products processed by ourselves. Therefore — I would not like to go too far — have confidence in the youth; place the youth in the conditions that will enable them to meet this challenge. Life is a race. I have always told you this and I am repeating it today. Life is a race. It is a race that cannot be judged at the start but at the end. [Applause] No country in the world — not even the most developed like the United States — has yet achieved its complete development. We are all in the race. [Applause] It is true that we are late but as I told you, despondency is not an Ivorian trait. [Applause]

Let us now turn to the second problem. It is the transportation problem, that is the road infrastructure. It is the indispensable support to agriculture. At the time of independence in 1960, we had 240,000 km of dirt roads and 700 km of paved roads that were very narrow. Today, we have 50,000 km of dirt roads but which can be used in all seasons in addition to the rural tracks which we are continuing to extend. Paved roads are not a luxury. There are two rainy seasons in our country; despite all the efforts being made by our engineers of the Public Works Department, we have heavy expenses in the field of road repairs. We are therefore compelled to pave at least all the major inter-city roads: Abidjan-Korhogo, Abidjan-Man via Gagnoa and Odienne, and Abidjan-Bondoukou via Abengourou. Therefore, we now have nearly 4,000 paved roads. [Applause] To these will be added paved roads linking Daloa and Vavoua, Daloa-Issia, Sinfra-Gagnoa, Abengourou-Niable, and Man-Danane. The construction of these roads started in September. [Applause] And as you are aware, the center of cocoa production has moved from the East toward the West. The East has its major cocoa-producing areas: Dimbokro, Bokanda, Daoukro, Kotobi, Dimbokro [as heard], and Bongouanou the road to which we have just completed. But the West also needs major crop producing areas not only for the production of cocoa but for both cocoa and coffee. [Applause] That is we need roads to Danane, Guiglo as well as to Toulepleu, Tai and Dabou and in the coastal area.

The World Bank has promised to help us to realize the coastal road project which is essential. [Applause] We ourselves have already made the necessary effort. Today — and the Ghanian ambassador is here to bear me out — you can go from Abidjan to Aboisso on the Ghanaian border and if our Ghanaian brothers, who are also busy working, manage to make this road useable, we would already go farther than the World Bank's anticipations. Promises have been made to us but the construction is taking time to start. It is necessary that we should do everything ourselves. You could then travel — especially we who are afraid of flying [applause] — directly from Abidjan to Accra, Cotonou and Lagos and, in time, you can travel to Douala, Libreville, and Brazzaville [applause]; and to our brothers in Zaire who are waiting for us with their roads. [Applause] In short, we have made very great progress in this field. But we still have a lot to do.

We now turn to industry. As you know, I made a commitment for the country at the start of our independence. Because of the euphoria arising from independence, some countries nationalized everything but found themselves confronted with shops covered with cobwebs some years later. [Applause] We had declared that we in Ivory Coast had no land to nationalize but to develop; we had no industries and trade to turn into state enterprises but to organize. And we kept this commitment. This was a rapid survey of the situation which will show you what we have managed to achieve in the field of agriculture. In the industrial field, we started in 1960 with about 60 factories. These were very small factories excepting Gonfreville and Blohorn which were the two most important. We now have 500 factories employing 80,000 workers. What matters for us in Ivory Coast is not the total salaries paid to workers. These salaries have increased tenfold in the private sector and in the factories since 1960. What matters for us is social progress.

Every day the Ivorian learns to do something. The Ivorian knows that the future will be for science and technology. He knows that he is trained in a school and that on the completion of his training, he will get a job; as I told you, it is going to be less and less in the administration. He must turn to the expanding industrial sector. This is the task we entrusted to our young minister of industry as well as to his young colleague of commerce, because we are insufficiently represented in these two fields; there are very few Ivorian manufacturers, and very few Ivorian traders. But they will do the job in double quick time. [Applause]

Very soon, we will assist the medium- and small-scale enterprises — we must start at the beginning. [applause] We will provide the means and enough advice so that our young businessmen will succeed and so that they will not mistake capital for benefit at the outset. [Applause] In this field, too, the Ivorian who is traditionally a farmer, does not like trading. But he must take to

it. He must take part in the distribution circuit; he must take part in the exportation. When our young officials work in these services to promote our youngsters, they are so intelligent and courageous. They love their country. I am not telling you Ivorians this, but I am telling our dear guests. [Applause]

In other countries, they experience a brain drain. But I will tell you that out of the roughly 20,000 young graduates from our institutions of learning, only 2 are now living abroad. [Applause] All the others are here building Ivory Coast. [Applause] So there is room for them. You see, much ink was spilled about the issue of the free-housing scheme for civil servants which, unfortunately, also caused many tears. But the issue has been settled. We have reduced the number of those entitled to free housing, and we have cut down the rate of housing allowances. Our young people, who will build the future, must stop being assisted; instead, they must build their own houses. The person who provides assistance eventually gets tired; as well as the beneficiary.

My fellow congress participants, that is the rapid survey which I made a point of making on the two subjects. Financial recovery has been achieved. Our agricultural production is on the increase; though hit by the crisis — because we have not yet exploited the oil resources found under our soil — our industries continue to exist. God having endowed us with four major rivers, we have turned to the dams; and thanks to the dams, we have been able to cover 92 percent of our energy needs. [Applause] Unfortunately the drought came. People — there are many prophets — said it will take 5 years before there is enough water in our dams. But God has thought otherwise. [Applause] In less than 2 years, the dams are full of water again. [Applause] We will retire the electric power stations that we paid dearly to import during the hard period of drought.

Therefore, fellow congress participants, I am going to resume the development works. [Applause] I have told you that we are going to devote 1, 2, 3 or 4 hours — the 80-year-old old man does not get tired — here in this same hall — and I hope those who have honored us by responding to our invitation will also be present — we are going to hold a press conference on Monday at 1000.

For 15 years I was a deputy in the French Parliament; I was in six French governments, and I know how press conferences are prepared. But we are going to organize this press conference the Ivorian way. What does this mean? I do not want anybody to present me with the questions they want to ask in advance. No! You will ask your question, and I, open-heartedly, will answer you.

We cannot end the expose of the results achieved since our independence without mentioning the helpful action of our Army which, thanks to a defense policy carried our with rigor and intelligence, and modernized with the modest means at our disposal, have been able to ensure peace at our borders. [Applause] The same can be said of our police. Thanks to them, and in spite of the insufiiciency in men and material, internal peace has always been preserved, giving to Ivorian citizens the security that ensures that they can constantly reflect on the actions needed to move in the right direction.

As you will recall, on the occasion of the inauguration of the St Paul Cathedral, and in commemoration of His Holiness' second visit to the Ivory Coast, his second visit in 5 years — which is a special honor Pope John Paul II bestowed upon us — on this occasion and on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of our independence, we will release the major part of our prisoners. [Applause] A promise is a debt; and to every sin there is forgiveness. The Ivory Coast is a country of great forgiveness. But I would like to assure my countrymen. They might be asking: What will these common-law prisoners who do not have any political status do? What won't they do again in this country which has been experiencing peace. We have taken the necessary precautions. [Applause] We have set aside the means — and very soon you will find them in the streets — which will enable the police, our courageous and devoted policemen, to discourage possible recidivists. [Applause] Security being a precondition for development, it is ensured by our police and our army, and all this is very comforting. This should be pursued to safeguard the appropriate field for militant and continued development of the democracy that we inaugurated within the organs of our party and in all spheres of national activity.

During the 25 years of our independence, all our political actions were dictated by the use of dialogue — both internally and at all levels — in our relations with other African states and in our relations with the rest of the world; by a humane and relentless dialogue through our passionate and obstinate search for peace. We should remember that we obtained our independence without resorting to arms, but by making dialogue prevail over the use of force. By carefully preserving this political achievement, we can consider that our passage from the colonial status to the reality of an independent state is a revolution, but we do not intend to use it as slogan but as an inspiration for the rewarding change it brings to us. If we are asked: Do we feel freer than before? I will answer and say: Undoubtedly yes! [Applause]

During our tours inside and outside the country, we don't encounter any obstacle. Very few people can say this. We have freedom of thought, speech, opinion, and press — representatives of the press are here to confirm this. In Ivory Coast, there is no political offense; therefore, we have no political detainees. We can freely choose our regime, and we freely choose our representatives at all levels. All these transformations from the colonial status to the construction of a true nation — which is a time-consuming task — can be achieved through the famous formula — through our common desire to live together. [Applause] We are very free, through the daily practice of dialogue, to settle all differences between us. In this world, there will always be misunderstandings and there are no more than two ways of settling differences — there are only two and we understand this. In our country and at all levels, we will solve our differences peacefully, through dialogue, by excluding the use of force, and in absolute respect for human rights — better still, in absolute respect for the right to life. In Ivory Coast, we do not kill. This daily practice of dialogue within the country — I will continue to repeat it — is enchanced by the daily practice of the passionate and obstinate search for peace and it is due to this precondition of peace that we have been able to make progress in all fields despite our limited means.

But, as I have always said, we do not want to be an oasis of prosperity, peace, and political stability in a desert of poverty and

instability. [Applause] And this is the reason why, after succeeding in uniting of all its citizens — 60 tribes — within its borders, Ivory Coast committed itself to work relentlessly towards an active solidarity between African countries and the unity of our continent. Dear congress participants, dear friends and guests, we can stay here for hours talking about all our actions, which indisputably prove our commitment to African solidarity and to the construction of Africa unity. On Monday, I will talk more of these actions. History is a kind of testimony. We have here people who are not from our country, but who have witnessed all the stages of these debates, all these struggles not only for African solidarity but also, and in particular, for the unity of our continent.

The late Kennedy is reported as saying that victory has several fathers but defeat is an orphan. So, in order not to be too lengthy on this report, I am planning, like I told you earlier, to hold a press conference in this very hall, at the end of our congress. I will be taking advantage of the presence of journalists from all corners of the continent to hold this press conference, during which we will point out the effective contribution of Ivory Coast to African solidarity and to the construction of African unity. Starting with the Entente Council, we have always been at the rendezvous of solidarity and unity. All our political life has been marked by these various stages. We were at the rendezvous of the Entente Council, the oldest of the subregional organizations, the strongest, not by its size but by the practice of a true-acting solidarity between the member-states. We were at Brazzaville with the Brazzaville group which gave birth to OCAM [African and Mauritian Common Organization], which is now disbanded after rendering enormous services to the cause of unity in the region and of our countries. We are a member-country of Air Afrique in the field of transportation, we are with UMOA [West African Monetary Union] in the monetary field. We are with the CEAO [West African Economic Community], with Ecowas, and also with the OAU.

The OAU should at all costs be safeguarded, in spite of its weaknesses, by constantly reminding the African states the principles that underlied its birth, principles that we should all respect, otherwise one day it will die out and we will regret it. [Applause]

Viewing this congress, being one of truth, continuity, and maturity, I would today like to continue affirming the policy which we intend to follow from now on in our relations with the rest of the international community. We know that in a world divided between the two blocs, which struggle for hegemony over the earth, developing countries should seek once and for all to pursue a policy of neutrality which will keep them away from the mortal commitment in any of the two camps.

But have we chosen the right path of neutrality? Have we respected the spirit that motivated its initiators — Nehru, Nasser, and Tito? We will talk about this with the journalists. I will only state here that after 25 years of independence, and considering all that we are experiencing and see everyday in the world, Ivory Coast henceforth intends to affirm and practice a policy of full sovereignty. [Applause] This means, as a free country, it wants to be everybody's friend and no one's enemy, while at the same time keeping its old friends. [Applause] Therefore, this congress of truth and maturity must unequivocally recommend that the government maintain, like Switzerland — independent, sovereign, and neutral — diplomatic relations with all countries that so wish by formally undertaking not to interfere in our internal affairs and by respecting our regime of freedom and peace, just as we will undertake to respect theirs. [Applause]

Our careful and steady observation of the international scene for 25 years has brought us to the conclusion that there exist four ugly feelings in the world [laughter] that disturb and impede man's actions and his full well-being. What are these ugly feelings? They are: fear, hypocrisy, jealousy, and selfishness. [Applause] Everywhere we look, we can only see fear — fear in thought, fear to take initiatives, fear in our behavior. Who can deny that that the two giants of the international scene are not afraid? They are afraid of the very fact of the possession of a gigantic force that might destroy the whole of mankind if a conflict should start between them. And this fear is taking hold of all of mankind, bringing in its wake reactions full of hypocrisy, jealousy, and selfishness. We are afraid of being eliminated, and so we try to keep ourselves in the game; we are afraid to be overtaken, and so we jealously keep all that we have to ourselves, without giving anything. If a country feels threatened, it goes all out into the arms race and sometimes does not hesitate to start a preventive war. History is full of such cases. And what is remarkable is that we see leaders of the world talking all day long about peace, the good thing about peace. And on each occasion they express their willingness for peace, denouncing the disastrous consequences that a disappearance of peace can bring about. But nowhere can one see their real willingness to seek and give concrete content to peace. [Applause] Therein lies the real difficulty, that the giants of the international political scene are not seeking to work towards the greatest good of mankind.

Let's take a look at the history of the world, then we will realize that there are diverse causes for the outbreak of wars. But the major ones which attract our attention, are the seizure of lands to extend the living space, and the will to dominate the world. We have always seen the formation of alliances — whenever interests believed to be shared — are threatened. In fact, such alliances would take various forms. For instance, — listen carefully — when Europeans and Americans became aware of Hitler's ambition to dominate the world, they did not hesitate — though they are the champions of liberalism — to team up with the Russians, champions of communism, in order to defeat nazism. Once they defeated and overcame nazism, Europeans and Americans on the one hand, and the Russians on the other hand, maintained their ideological basis. Now, what do we witness: There is a latent, obsessive, and depressing conflict between a world which would like to remain what it is — that is a liberal world — and another world, which would like to establish itself on the ruins of the other one. According to us, this ideological danger is more serious than the one posed by nazism. But we believe that we must try to eliminate it not through force, as was the case with nazism, but through the real willingness to sit at a negotiation table without any ulterior motives in order to define, in an unequivocal manner, the meaning of peace for the happiness of mankind, each side being free to maintain the ideology it deems fit for its philosophy of life. This is the prayer I say for the survival of mankind. Let no one entertain the idea of resorting to super sophisticated and extremely destructive

weapons, because no one would be spared in the event of a catastrophe. We must make every sacrifice for peace as long as there is still time. [Applause]

I do not believe in the virtue or the dynamics of condemnation. Meetings on disarmament can be held a thousand times in Geneva. Nothing will be achieved, unless at the beginning, the citadel of distrust standing between the two blocs dividing the world is destroyed. So, why — yes why — shouldn't the leaders of the two blocs address themselves to the assignment which all of mankind expects them to carry out — that is genuine, honest, and trustful dialogue, which will reassure both sides — in order to achieve a modus vivendi, with the common objective being the happiness of mankind? At the outset, this dialogue may seem difficult, very difficult, if not utopic. But as a small leader of a small country, I believe along with my people that this dialogue is indispensable and must be started as soon as possible so that the hope, and even the certainty of mankind's survival will be concretized. [Applause] The need was felt to defeat Hitlerism through arms. So an agreement can be achieved to eliminate the other danger — greater than Hitlerism — which is the confrontation between different ideological regimes.

It is necessary that we should manage to live together like brothers. This is the indispensable condition for union in diversity. If it is put into practice, this common political will will not benefit one group in preference of another but the entire human race because there is unlimited room for the utilization of human intelligence in the service of human happiness, real human happiness. [Applause] Once again, I implore Almighty God to ensure that this prayer by a small man leading a small country is heard by the big powers who decide peace and war in the world. [Applause]

We now turn to you, dear comrades and militants. We turn to the Ivorian people, whose happiness has always been my main concern, in order to thank you again very sincerely for the firm confidence you have had in me for more than 40 years now, as well as for your demonstrations of respect and affection which I greatly appreciate because I know that they are genuine. [Applause]

After the report on our political, economic and social actions; on our relations with our African brothers; on our relations with the rest of the world — action which on the whole enabled us to achieve very encouraging results on the path of progress — it is necessary that we should insist on the need of maintaining peace in our country. It is a treasure that we must safeguard at all costs. [Applause] In fact, without peace there can no longer be any development; rather, there will be inevitable recession. When there is peace, all hopes are allowed. As it has been demonstrated by the difficult years we have experienced, it is certain that we will overcome all the difficulties the future may still have in store for us. By peace inside our country, I mean peace of heart, peace of mind, and peace in daily behavior which will be enhanced by justice, tolerance, active solidarity, respect of human rights, and respect for the right to life which I have not forgotten and which you cannot forget. [Applause] You reminded me of it yesterday with great eloquence.

And I have not forgotten the need to kill jealousy which leads to hatred and the dislocation of the society. On the contrary, let us cultivate love which generates actions beneficial for all. We do not underestimate the difficulties we still have to overcome on the path of progress. But if we redouble our efforts by making competence prevail over mediocrity and laziness — competence resulting from the permanent improvement of the skills received in training — and if we are honest and have confidence in one another, there is no doubt at all that we will successfully overcome all difficulties.

Fellow Ivorian brothers, fellow Ivorian sisters, before anything else, let us remain united. [Applause] The national unity, which enabled us to overcome the crisis and to launch our recovery must enable us — though we are a small country — to affirm that we do not want to yield to the requirements and the whims of anyone. It is national unity — the basis of our policy of full sovereignty — that must remain the priority objective of the Ivorian people. Thanks to your unflinching loyalty and your filial dedication I am totally confident in our future progress, in our prosperity justly shared among all: men and women, young and old, farmers and city dwellers. May God bless our beloved country! Let each of us, each of our families take the solemn commitment to always and in all sectors do even more and an even better job. [Applause] And let us all be always ready for peace. [Applause] Long live Ivory Coast! Long live the PDCI-RDA! [Applause]

LIBERIA

Military To Protect Citizens on Election Day

AB102218 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 2000 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] The chief of staff of the Armed Forces of Liberia, Lieutenant General Henry Dubar, has warned that drastic actions would be taken against any person or group of persons who would attempt to disrupt the general elections on October 15. Speaking in an interview with the LIBERIAN NEWS AGENCY [LINA] today, Gen Dubar said military personnel would be placed at selected areas around the country to arrest any individuals who would attempt to create chaos and confusion to discredit the electoral process. He explained that the tents built in various communities would be used to house soldiers assigned in these areas on elections day to protect the lives and properties of citizens and foreign residents within Liberia's borders.

The Army chief of staff also told LINA that the Defense Ministry had issued a memorandum to all military personnel [words indistinct] regulate soldiers' behavior and participation in the general elections. Gen Dubar, however, did not elaborate on the contents of the memorandum. Commenting on the alleged beating of Unity Party's senatorial candidate for Bong County, Counselor Francis Garlawolo, recently by military personal in Totota, Bong County, Chief of Staff Dubar said he was informed of the incident by Mr Garlawolo in a letter on October 8. Gen Dubar said on the same day, he forwarded the complaint to the commanding general of the Armed Forces to speedily investigate the allegations and submit his findings as well as recommendations to his office for appropriate action.

MALI

Traore on Nucci's Visit, Burkina Border Dispute

AB092131 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Excerpts] The president of the republic, General Moussa Traore, has granted an interview to our colleagues of the (?French) radio and television. He spoke about drought, development aid, the role of Malian women, and the border dispute between Mali and Burkina Faso.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] What did you request from French Minister Christian Nucci?

[Traore] I did not ask for anything from Minister Christian Nucci. We reviewed the cooperation between France and Mali, as well as African and world issues.

[Reporter] Concerning the border dispute with Burkina Faso, do you think that the case won't come up again at International Court of Justice at the Hague? Doesn't it jeopardize regional cooperation in the fight against famine and drought in the Sahel?

[Traore] Looking at the fact that Mali does not take the matter as a major concern, that this issue should not disturb its development, that Burkina Faso and Mali have decided to send the matter to the International Court of Justice at the Hague, and that these two countries have also accepted to resolve this matter at the bilateral level, we do not think that this matter jeopardizes subregional cooperation. [end recording]

NIGERIA

Minister Discusses Soccer Match Withdrawal

AB092216 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Text] The minister of sports social development, youth, Lieutenant Colonel Ahmed Abdullahi, has defended the decision of the Nigerian Football Association to withdraw from this year's West African Football Union [WAFU] competition at the final stage. He told a Radio Nigeria correspondent in Lagos that pulling out of the competition was most appropriate since the safety of Nigerian players and citizens in Ivory Coast could not be guaranteed. Col Abdullahi stated that it was better to lose an opportunity to have the WAFU Cup for keeps than to lose Nigerian lives during the competition. The minister stated that Nigeria's representatives in the competition, the New Nigeria Bank Football Club could win the match on the pitch but it (?lose it) later even after Nigerians might have been killed. [sentence as heard]

He recalled the sad experiences of another Nigerian club, IICC [Industrial Investments and Credit Corporation] Shooting Stars and other African teams during matches with Ivorian teams. Nigeria this week withdrew from WAFU Cup competition following the refusal by the organizers to have the final match between the Nigerian club and Africa Sports of Ivory Coast played on a neutral ground.

Former President Urges Stand on IMF Loan Issue

AB102240 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Dr Nnamdi Azikiwe returned home last night from the United States with a call on the government to take a stand on the IMF loan issue, since it knows the full details. The first president of the country, however, cautioned that whatever decision was taken should be in the people's interest. He attributed constant military intervention in African politics to the flagrant violation of laid-down constitutions by those in authority. Dr Azikiwe, who was speaking to a Radio Nigeria correspondent at Murtala Muhammed International airport, called for a more humane approach to national issues by those in authority.

SENEGAL

Diouf Comments on Return From Frontline States

AB092351 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Text] President Abdou Diouf returned to Dakar this afternoon after a marathon tour of the frontline states. The head of state was welcomed by several cabinet members, members of the National Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, the diplomatic corps, as well as civilian, military, and religious personalities. Here is President Abdou Diouf speaking to the press:

[Begin Diouf recording] I think that your colleagues did a very good job and that you were able to be informed almost daily of what happened. I simply want to recall the objectives of this southern African tour. For me, the tour was aimed first at being there physically to express the solidarity of all of Africa to the southern African countries, the liberation movements, to the causes that they are defending: the rapid eradication of apartheid and Namibia's independence. Second, it was aimed at keeping myself informed about what is actually happening. As I neared South Africa, and even as I flew over part of South Africa, I tried to gather as much information as possible from the various heads of state and government and the leaders of liberation movements concerning the problems confronting them. I tried to gather information from them on what is happening in South Africa itself, on the critical political situation in their countries which are victims of South African destabilization, on their analysis of the situation, and on the impact of the measures already taken by the African states and other world countries in order to eradicate apartheid and accelerate Namibia's independence. I also discussed with them the eventual need to take other measures in order to achieve our goal faster and move further.

Upon my return to Dakar today, I can say that this tour has attained its two objectives, because despite my very busy schedule, I was able to go to all of the countries I wanted to visit and to express very clearly to them Africa's solidarity. I was also able to gather the maximum information, advice, suggestions, and recommendations, and I was also able to get a clear idea of the situation and I believe this is important. As the current chairman of the OAU and in view of the fact that things seem to be accelerating in South Africa, and that economic sanctions against South Africa are being discussed, I will say, right away,

that in a general manner, all of these countries agree with the implementation of economic sanctions and even with the intensification of global, and if possible, compulsory economic sanctions. If we cannot have immediate compulsory economic sanctions, we should at least urge global and voluntary ones. This has been done and I think that the people whom we visited felt Africa's message and received it well, and they sensed our total commitment and unflinching solidarity with them and our support for them in order to achieve our objectives.

I do not think that I need to speak any further on this, because I know that you already have had details and you will have more information on this thanks to the excellent work done by your colleagues who accompanied us during this trip. [end recording]

Yasir 'Arafat Begins Working Visit to Dakar
AB102238 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] The PLO leader is in Dakar since this afternoon. Yasir 'Arafat is on a working visit to our country. He was welcomed this afternoon by Medoune Fall, the minister of the Armed Forces. Tomorrow, the PLO leader will be received by President Abdou Diouf.

Hails Diouf PLO Stand
AB110800 Dakar Domestic Service in French 0700 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Text] The meeting between Yasir 'Arafat and Abdou Diouf will take place this morning at 1000 at the Republic Palace. The PLO chairman, who arrived yesterday afternoon in Dakar from Tunis, told reporters that he had come to hold talks with President Diouf before the latter goes to the United Nations where the head of state will address the General Assembly. Yasir 'Arafat also expressed delight at what he termed the courageous position taken by President Abdou Diouf in favor of the PLO.

SIERRA LEONE

Stevens in UK En Route to Commonwealth Meeting
AB101453 Freetown Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Excerpt] The president, Dr Siaka Stevens, is now in London on his way to attend the Commonwealth summit meeting in the Bahamas, and other official engagements in the United States of America. Shortly after his departure from Freetown, Mr Justice (Ibrahima Salia) admitted into the Office of the President, the acting first vice president, Mr Francis Minah. Acting President Minah later swore in the health minister, Mr A.B. Kamara, to act as the first vice president.

ANGOLA

UNITA Communique Says 8 Helicopters Shot Down

MB100808 (Clandestine) KUP in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0600 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Free Land of Angola, 10 Oct (KUP) — A communique issued last week by the UNITA operational strategic command, known as COPE, said that during the 16-30 September period, 315 FAPLA soldiers and 13 Cubans were killed, and 15 FAPLA members were captured by UNITA forces. During the same period, 8 Soviet helicopters were shot down and 141 weapons and 67,450 rounds of ammunition were captured. In addition, an armored car, 31 military trucks, and 4 BM-21 and 2 BM-14 rocket launchers were destroyed in battles carried out in several Angolan provinces.

UNITA forces in the same period had 67 killed, 147 injured, 9 missing and 19 rifles lost.

These battles were carried out in the Zaire, Uige, Cuanza Norte, Malange, Lunda, and Luanda Provinces and include battles against MPLA motorized provision convoys.

In the south of Angola, UNITA forces attacked farming centers and small towns, including Vila de Seles. In addition, a motorized convoy was attacked along the Huambo-Lobito highway in Benguela Province. Other battles took place in Huambo, Cunene, Cuando-Cubango, and Moxico Provinces. According to the source, the weapons captured at Cazombo and Mavinga are not included in the communique.

5 Helicopters Downed 6 Oct

MB110658 (Clandestine) KUP in English to Southern and Central Africa 0600 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Text] Free land of Angola, 11 Oct (KUP) — 4 MPLA pilots and 4 technicians on board were killed and a 1st lieutnant captured at Cuito Front. [sentence as received]

On the 6th October 1985, UNITA antiaircraft forces shot down 5 MPLA A"uette III helicopters on Cuito Front. The helicopters were on their way to MPLSA brigades which are the 7th, 8th and 13th. Close to Kuzumbia River, a 1st Lt Pedro Sasakata was captured.

The victims are the following: pilots, 2nd Lieutenant Helder Garcez, Sub-Lieutenant Inacio Manuel, the soldiers are Victor Hugo and Castilho Branco. Technicians on board: Sub-Lieutenant Manuel Goncalves, Sub-Lieutenant Joao Felix, the soldiers are, Pereira dos Santos Van Dunem, Hermenegildo de Jesus Quitas.

On the same date 18 FAPLA were killed, 8 trucks Ural destroyed, 13 armoured cars BRDM-2 and 2 trucks Ural full of war material captured.

Finally, the communique says that UNITA forces overran Vila de Hote in Cuanza Sul Province, 23 kms south east of Novo Rendondo. 3 Cubans and 52 FAPLA were killed, 14 FAPLA, 46 rifles, 1 communication radio and other war equipment captured.

UNITA Claims Attacks on Airport, Railway Depot

MB101452 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1400 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] UNITA rebels claim they have attacked and damaged an airport and a railway depot in two Angolan provincial capitals. In a statement issued in Lisbon, the rebels say the killed 70 Angolan Government troops in these and other operations in the last two weeks.

They say they destroyed a fuel dump, three buildings, and radar antenna on 27 September in a raid on an airport at Luena in Moxico Province, and a week later the guerrillas are alleged to have attacked the central depot of the Benguela Railway Company in Huambo, destroying machinery, a locomotive, and three carriages.

LESOTHO

RSA Security Forces Reportedly Training Terrorists

MB091319 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] Information gleaned from South African-trained terrorists who have recently been captured by Lesotho's security forces indicate without doubt that the training of these terrorists is carried out by officials of the South African security forces. Recent information contains facts already received in the past that these terrorists infiltrate Lesotho with specific instructions which, among other things, include the assassination of certain politicans and holders of public office. The most drastic example of these instructions was the gas bomb attempt on the life of the prime minister. New information is that not only does the prime minister continue to be a major target, but some of his ministers are included in the list.

These terrorists are trained in South Africa by members of an arm of the South African Government. They are transported to Lesotho with the assistance of South African Government officials, and they receive their instructions directly from members of the South African security police.

How do these activities coincide with public statements made by government leaders in South Africa that their desire is to live in peace with their neighbors? Indeed they do not, but they constitute blatant interference in the internal affairs of Lesotho by directly threatening the lives of leaders who have been voluntarily elected by the vast majority of the people of this country. After sowing these tactics, South Africa on the other hand wishes to give the world the incorrect impression that it wishes to coexist peacefully with Lesotho. It continues to give the world the false impression that it is talking peacefully to Lesotho.

Perhaps events in Angola and Mozambique must present Lesotho with the lesson they need not forget especially in these dealings with South Africa. An accord of peace, the Nkomati Accord, was signed with Mozambique by South Africa. Mozambique was swift in her implementation of the agreement by ensuring the departure of the ANC from that country. South Africa, on the other hand, has at the highest level admitted to flagrantly violating the accord.

Recently terrorists of the MNR who are trained and financed by South Africa attacked Maputo in direct violation of the Nkomati Accord. Similar arrangements with Angola have been torn to pieces, while South Africa continues her invasion of that nation. All these are done in the (?name) of good-neighborliness.

What startles most Basotho though is that Lesotho is a tiny country, economically weak compared to South Africa. Militarilly it can never match South Africa's might. Why then these persecutions by South Africa of a small and harmless people? What will South Africa gain from the assassination of Dr Leabua Jonathan and certain members of his cabinet?

Information received from the captured terrorists is that the Lesotho Liberation Army, LLA, in fact no longer exists. The name is merely maintained in order to give the South African security forces a smoke screen through which their death squads can be infiltrated into Lesotho. Basotho need to close their [word indistinct] identity agents of the enemy and isolate them totally from our political mainstream.

MALAWI

Romanian Delegation to Party Convention Departs

MB101452 Blantyre Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] A 2-man Romanian delegation, which was in the country to attend this year's Malawi Congress Party convention, has left for home. Speaking to MENA on departure in Lilongwe, the leader of the delegation, Mr Maxim Berghianu, said they were leaving Malawi with happy memories. Mr Berghianu, who is a member of the Central Committee of the Romanian Communist Party, praised the life president's policies which he said enabled the country to develop in various fields within a short period of time. He also expressed the hope that bilateral relations between Romania and Malawi would grow from strength to strength.

MOZAMBIQUE

Viljoen Admits Sending RSA Troops Into Country

MB101934 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] The chief of staff of the South African Armed Forces, General Constand Viljoen, has given new details of South African violations of the Nkomati Accord. Gen Viljoen was speaking at a press conference in Pretoria. He confirmed South African violations of the accord which had already been made public by Mozambique, such as the secret visit to the MNR terrorist base at Gorongosa by senior South African officials. He added that one of these officials, Louis Nel, who was then deputy foreign minsiter, was accompanied by a squad of South African paratroopers. Gen Viljoen claimed that the paratroopers were sent to guarantee the security of Louis Nel. This is the first time South Africa has admitted sending its troops into Mozambique, an action which was described in Maputo by the newspaper *NOTICIAS* as a flagrant violation of the Nkomati Accord.

Pik Botha Arrives for Talks in Maputo 11 Oct

MB111058 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Text] South African Minister of Foreign Affairs Roelof Botha arrived in Maputo this morning for talks with members of the Mozambican Government. Pik Botha is accompanied by Ron Miller, the new deputy minister of foreign affairs. Miller was appointed last month after it had been disclosed that his predecessor, Louis Nel, made three clandestine trips to see the armed bandits in Gorongosa.

Today's talks are being held at the request of the South African minister and come after the disclosure by Minister of Security Sergio Vieira of a part of the documents captured from the bandits in Gorongosa. The documents prove that South Africa has not fully observed the Nkomati Accord.

FPLM Forces Kill 7 'Bandits' in Manica

MB100920 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] In the past few days, FPLM killed seven armed bandits in (Mucundeia), Sussundenga District in Manica. Several people who were forced to live with bandits were released during the operations. Our Armed Forces also recovered 30 head of cattle which had been stolen from the people by those criminals. The operations are in the framework of a search and destroy offensive against the armed bandits.

Soviet Education Official Visits Fishing Center

MB081335 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1400 GMT 7 Oct 85

[Text] (Tamara Dlazak), vice chairman of the Soviet State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education, today wrote in the visitors book at the Nacala fishing center in Maputo that cooperation between her country and Mozambique is very fruitful.

(Tamara Dlazak) stated this in the book after visiting the center, where she received explanations on its functioning and political, administrative, and vocational organization. During the visit, the vice chairman of the Soviet State Committee for Vocational and Technical Education was accompanied by Andre de Carvalho and Tenreiro de Almeida, state secretaries for technical and vocational education and fishing respectively.

Talks between technical education delegations of two countries will take place this afternoon. The talks are aimed at promoting bilateral cooperation.

Yugoslav Youth Delegation Arrives on Visit

MB092030 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Text] A delegation from the League of Socialist Youth of Yugoslavia arrived in Maputo this afternoon for a working visit to Mozambique. It is expected that the delegation will visit the museum of the revolution, some art exhibitions, and enterprises and will also view a film on the effects of drought and actions of the armed bandits in our country.

The delegation is led by (Celvic Jugic Rihajec), president of the Presidium of the League of Socialist Youth of Yugoslavia. (Celvic Rihajec) told our reporters that during this visit, a cooperation protocol will be signed between his organization and the Mozambican Youth Organization [OJM].

Welcoming the delegation was the OJM general secretary, Zacarias Kupela, and the SFRY ambassador in Maputo.

NAMIBIA

Cabinet To Decide on Fate of 21 Political Detainees

MB101428 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 0830 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Advocate Fanuel Kozonguizi, the minister of information, justice, and posts and telecommunications in South-West Africa, says he is awaiting reports from several state departments so that a decision can be made on 21 political detainees.

The detainees were earlier taken from South Africa and are presently being held in Windhoek.

Mr Kozonguizi said he would first make a full report to the cabinet on the circumstances of each detainee. The cabinet would then decide on their possible release.

SOUTH AFRICA

President Blames UK for Lack of Black Franchise

MB101428 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1425 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Delareyville, Oct 10, SAPA — If anybody was to blame for the delay in black constitutional development it was the former colonial powers and not the South African Government, the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, said today.

Unveiling a monument in memory of local boers who died in the Boer War, he said: "Lord Milner had, in the forced peace of Vereeniging, ensured there was to be no franchise for black people after the introduction of self-government, which was never intended.

"It was only after half a century that an Afrikaner Government started doing something about black rights," Mr Botha told nearly a thousand people at an open air meeting in the town.

If blame was to be apportioned for the delay in blacks constitutional development this should not be laid at the South African Government's doorstep but at that of the colonial powers that had delayed progress and had not started work on solving the problems of South Africa's people.

Mr Botha said nearly 28,000 Boers, women and children, had died in the British concentration camps and that this crime against humanity was in principle identical to that committed by Hitler.

A little-known fact, however, was that thousands of black people had also been put in concentration camps because they worked with the Boers.

According to available records, at least 13,000 black men, women and children had died in these camps.

Mr Botha appealed to all in South Africa to learn from the lessons of the past.

The Boer governments had been unable to escape the dilemma of having to choose between war and giving in to pressure.

"We must not fall into the same dilemma...we must make a plan and we must stand together," he said.

The struggle for freedom and justice could only be achieved through unity.

"I also appeal to you, even though I know you have been through very hard times lately, not to despair and give up," Mr Botha told his audience which consisted largely of people in the farming community.

The state president urged people not to allow differences to lead to conflicts, warning that the "Godless Communists and their supporters are on our borders and they will not distinguish among us."

The people should also not play into the hands of those who spread malicious propaganda against the country's security forces.

The Afrikaner people themselves should also stand united, otherwise they would die as a people.

"We musn't work with perceptions and impressions, we must work with realities," he said.

SADF Chief Viljoen Interviewed on Renamo Ties

MB101350 Johannesburg Television Service in Afrikaans 1800 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Interview with General Constand Viljoen, outgoing head of the SADF, by SABC's Jannie Botes; Harald Pakendorf, of Pretoria's

DIE VADERLAND newspaper and Brian Pottinger, journalist on the Johannesburg *SUNDAY TIMES* — live]

[Text] South Africa's and especially the SADF's, involvement with Renamo since the signing of the Nkomati Accord has been questioned here and abroad following the discovery of the so-called Vaz Diaries in Mozambique. The man who has the final responsibility for the SADF is General Constand Viljoen in our Pretoria studio. Janie Botes, Harald Pakendorf of *DIE VADERLAND*, and Brian Pottinger of the *SUNDAY TIMES* question him.

[Botes] Gen Viljoen whether it was the government or the SADF, Renamo has been helped and the Nkomati Accord has been jeopardized. Why?

[Viljoen] The whole run-up to the present situation with Renamo and the SADF can be divided into a number of phases. One must begin by saying that before the Nkomati Accord, there had naturally been contact between the Defence Force and Renamo. Today this is general knowledge. At the time, we were following a reasonable military strategy. When the accord was signed, this military strategy was replaced by a diplomatic and political strategy. And one has to examine what happened after the Nkomati Accord, up to the time of the first failure in the attempts at reconciliation. And in particular I want to give you an indication of the role of the Defense Force during that first phase.

During that phase, the Defense Force was constantly monitoring events. The purpose of Nkomati was to bring about peace in Mozambique and produce certain important results. That was the purpose of Nkomati. But when one looks at the military struggle, then a graph would show that even after the signing of Nkomati, the war was escalating continually and had reached a climax, in fact, in the past 3 months. So, after Nkomati the SADF was involved in the whole process of the implementation of the accord. So, for example, the role of the Defense Force was initially advisory to the government.

Right from the time of Nkomati, our advice to the government was that the purpose of Nkomati, the real benefits to Mozambique and South Africa, would not be realized unless there was a halt to the war within Mozambique. So, it was our job to advise the government on this. I, personally, advised government very firmly that they should press for a cease-fire, during which period negotiations could proceed, because I believed that, once we had achieved the cease-fire, they would not easily return to war and that would speed up the negotiation process.

During this period, the SADF also assisted in moving... [changes thought] When negotiations began to take place, we began first by moving Renamo people to places where it would be possible for them to make contact with the opposition, Frelimo. So, for example, our military intelligence arranged two meetings before the major meeting was arranged in Pretoria around September-October. One meeting took place in Europe and one in Pretoria. The purpose of these low-level meetings between Frelimo and Renamo — then under the chairmanship of military intelligence officer General van der Westhuizen...[changes thought] Before it took place, no, at the time of this, we were (?in contact) with the movement. There was also the communication aspect. The Frelimo people, the negotiators, who during this process were often in contact with our foreign affairs people, specifically asked that the South African authorities keep in touch with Renamo. I was given such an instruction by the government to maintain communications with Renamo. This, by the way, also explains the presence of some of our radio sets at Renamo headquarters. And how would we then be able to make contact for the purposes of the process of negotiation if we were not able to contact Renamo? Who other than the SADF was in a position to bring about these contacts?

In addition, we arranged these meetings in secret in order to make the preparations for the major discussions. In so doing, we eventually succeeded in getting the full talks going. But while this was going on, a very important facet emerged which affected the whole use of the Defence Force. It soon became clear that Mr Fernandes of Renamo was not a very acceptable negotiator. Mr Fernandes was a very clever person who was brilliant in his negotiations, but who looked for minor points and was inclined to become very difficult with his opponents. And it was soon evident to the Defense Force, to Foreign Affairs, and also to the Frelimo government, that this chap Fernandes would cause problems.

So it was decided that we had to go and bring the leaders in the bush, the real military leaders, because it was felt that Fernandes was not putting the real facts, the needs, of Renamo on the negotiating table. That is how we became involved in getting the real leaders out of Mozambique. The president of Renamo, Alfonso Dhlakama, then decided he would remain at his headquarters at Gorongosa for the time being, so that he could conduct the war, and instead send a team of his generals, his field officers, to Pretoria for the negotiations. We went to get those people.

During the negotiations, this team had to report back form time to time to Dhlakama, and it was our duty to take them back to their headquarters and to keep in contact with them for this purpose. This just shows you how openly we did this. It was something that had been arranged openly between us and Foreign Affairs and the Frelimo government, to the extent, for example, that the Frelimo government ordered a 2-week cease-fire to enable us to fly wherever we had to in order to bring the Renamo leaders to the negotiations in Pretoria, at their request.

So you can see what the role of the Defense Force was in that first phase.

[Botes] General, thank you. I think you have given us a very good chance to see the background from your side. I would like to ask Brian Pottinger of the *SUNDAY TIMES* to go ahead.

[Pottinger] General, let me just ask this. The notebook and the diary of Mr Vas. Do you accept the authenticity of those documents, or do you reject them?

[Viljoen] Mr Pottinger, I would like to enlarge on this, because it is a very important question. Let me begin by saying immediately that it is very clear from this diary that there was definitely a diary, and that the diary was certainly captured at Gorongosa, because there are a number of facts in it. But there are also a

number of facts now being used against us which are not true. Now, just to link this let me say that this is a propaganda technique. Propaganda is a method of implementing mass hypnosis or mass indoctrination. This is done by taking a number of facts and using them as the basis of your argument and embroidering this with a number of untruths or lies, in such a manner that the lies or untruths do not contradict the truths, and to use all this together to present a propaganda scheme. And the propaganda scheme in this case is to show that the Defense Forces is an Organization which was involved in continued aid to Renamo and that we are opposed to the new offensive of diplomacy and political strategy, and that we are not prepared to accept instructions from the government in this regard. So we are the destabilizer, instead of helping with the stabilizing process of peace in Mozambique. This is something we have to understand clearly in answering the question.

[Botes] General, we have had only two questions and already almost half of our time has elapsed. I shall have to ask you to answer more briefly. Harald Pakendorf of *DIE VADERLAND*.

[Pakendorf] Good evening, General. It seems to me, if we have to get right to the point I am aiming at, is the credibility of the Defense Force not affected? I refer back to the events in 1975 in Angola, when it was first said we were not inside, then we were inside Angola. Recently it was said by two ministers, foreign affairs and defense, that we had not violated the accord. Yet now we find that recently a commission of inquiry was set up which found that we had in fact violated the accord. It seems to me that the credibility of the Defense Force has been called into question and that is something which should concern all of us in the country. Does it worry you, general?

[Viljoen] Mr Pakendorf, naturally I worry about it. That is why I am here. As you know, our president and my minister put the matter very clearly. They made the denials that were necessary in the matter, but it became clear later that as a result of the new accusations, we had to do something more. So I am concerned about the credibility of the Defense Force. But remember, that is precisely the aim of our enemy — to attack the credibility of the Defense Force. And as explained to you, this is done by using a set of facts and lies to present a propaganda scheme.

[Pakendorf] But General, did you not first deny that you were there, and later you had to admit that you were? Did you not yourself create that credibility crisis?

[Viljoen] No, we did not deny anything about the role of the Defense Force following the Nkomati Accord in this whole matter. Under no circumstances did we deny that we made certain flights in and out, and that we were helping Renamo to get to the meetings. We have never denied it, and we will not deny it, because it is the truth.

[Pakendorf] But, General...

[Viljoen, interrupting] But it was all in order to assist the negotiations.

[Pakendorf] But General, what you are now speaking about only became known later, the violations. But therefore that, over the past year, the Frelimo government has been saying that the accord was being violated, and all we were told was that this was not true. But now we have been told that these violations did happen. In the view of the people with whom you work, at least, the question must arise: Where do we stand? Now, let me follow that up with a difficult question. At present it is being said that... [interrupted]

[Viljoen] Will you allow me to answer that?

[Pakedorf] No, the next question is directly related to that. We are at present being accused — and you may say that is part of a propaganda campaign — that we are in fact busy fighting in Angola against forces under Soviet command. You will deny this, because up to now it has been denied. But if it does begin to seem that we were really there, then we will be in serious trouble.

[Viljoen] You know, you are now speaking about the large number of accusations made against the Defense Force recently. This is precisely the thing that I was explaining to you just now. As far as I can remember, there were about 22 false, unfounded allegations made by the Frelimo elements in the Joint Security Commission, every time with an absolutely absurd allegation. For example, that somewhere along the border area there is a cave under the border so large that vehicles can go through it and that is the area through which the SADF is continuing its support of Renamo. They make these allegations, we investigate the matter and at the next meeting they show no interest in our answers to the truth or otherwise of the matter; they simply come up with a new, more absurd claim.

Take, for example, the violations of air space. At first they claimed the Defense Force is violating their air space. We found that this was not so. Then they came back and said these were private aircraft being used by civilian organizations — a reference to the Portuguese community in South Africa. So I spoke to General Malan, and it was decided to use radar over the national park. So we used radar over the national park for 3 months, at a cost of 180,000 rand per month, just to prove that this was not true. We proved it, we presented the evidence at the meetings, but they were not interested in it. All that they were interested in was the fact that they had come with important statements which caused a sensation, which enjoyed wide coverage in all the media, which were totally untrue, and that was the effect they wanted.

[Pakendorf] General, you are referring to a number of smaller things that we do not have here. I think you should admit the more important issues, such as the 1975 presence in Angola. I think that the Defense Force has admitted that it was badly handled. I have already mentioned the other major events. These are the ones the public remembers.

[Viljoen] I would like to take you further on the presence in Angola in 1975, but we would be wasting time instead of dealing with the important elemets we would like to cover in this interview. I would like us to discuss those matters later. You are very welcome to do so...

[Pakendorf, interrupting] I just want to ask one more question before Mr Pottinger asks his. At the very time it was being denied

that we had violated the accord, it was announced that five officers...[change of thought] it was said — I cannot remember — they were dismissed, but in any event, they were not doing the same work any longer, because they had been found to be in favor of Renamo and were assisting Renamo. This was done at the same time that denials were being made. You see, there was that internal matter as well, which had nothing to do with propaganda from outside.

[Viljoen] Yes. I am very glad you mentioned this issue. You know, in the Defense Force, and especially the minister of defense, we were very sensitive about the accusations being made against us that we wanted to undermine Nkomati. And we in the Defense Force decided that we would do everything to remove any suspicions that could arise. And when we in the Defense Force were accused, we said: Let us eliminate any every possibility. And we...[changes thought] I can assure you that those persons had not been guilty of contact with, or assistance to, Renamo. But we removed them from all the posts where there could even be the possibility that they would overstep the line in this regard, just in order to remove any suspicion. So, in fact, there were no punitive measures against those people. They behaved honorably, and we only removed them in order to ensure that nothing could be said about us, so that it could not be said that we had violated the accord.

[Botes] General, I want to ask Brian Pottinger to ask his question.

[Pottinger] General, some of the supplies provided to the Renamo forces included fuel, landing strips, that kind of thing. How does that agree with the statement that was humanitarian aid to Renamo movement?

[Viljoen] Mr Pottinger, let us take, for example, the issue of the landing strips. If I had to go into the second phase, for example, of having to take Deputy Minister Nel into Mozambique in order to persuade the Renamo people for a second time to come to the negotiating table, then one has to have a place somewhere to land. During the first phase, as I have already explained, we had to go in to fetch the real leaders of Renamo in the bush. To do that, we had to have landing strips somewhere.

The Gorongosa landing strip involved here is in fact an old Portuguese air field which was linked to the game reserve. But before we could use it, we had to send in some people. We sent two men, who went in for 10 days, examined the landing field, removed a number of trees along the edges, and made certain the security situation was such that we could land safely, and that was the so-called preparation of this so-called South African air base inside Mozambique. There was never a South African air base inside Mozambique. It was a temporary landing strip that we used for the specific purpose of promoting the Nkomati negotiations.

To go on to the second issue — the fuel — it can rightly be asked why we took fuel to such a place. But, as I said, we had to fetch all the Renamo leaders, not only the few from their headquarters. To do that, we had to be able to reach them. They had to be fetched with motorcycles and the like. That is why we took in fuel. When we took Deputy Minister Nel in, he had to travel about 30 km from the landing strip to reach the place where he could negotiate with the various Renamo leaders. They had to use a motorcycle to do that. That motorcycle uses petrol. Another reason fuel was needed was, for example, to keep the battery chargers going. If we were to keep in contact with these people, on the instructions of the Frelimo government, then we had to have fuel for recharging the batteries and so on. That should explain the few points you mentioned.

[Botes] We have about 5 minutes left for our discussion. Brian Pottinger have you another question?

[Pottinger] General, let us leave those details for the moment. What is the relationship now between the Defense Force and the Department of Foreign Affairs? It has been suggested to us that there are elements in the Defense Force that are not satisfied with the way the foreign affairs people have handled the Mozambican Government's charges.

[Viljoen] Mr Pottinger, that is exactly the aim of our enemy. The aim of our enemies is to drive a wedge...[changes thought] And now I want to explain to you briefly how this situation arose. The Defense Force was originally linked to Renamo. At the time of Nkomati, the Department of Foreign Affairs, was linked more and more closely with Frelimo. During the first negotiations in Pretoria, the situation was this: We went to fetch the Renamo people and brought them safely to Pretoria. We looked after them. We accommodated them. Foreign affairs made arrangements for the Frelimo people. This cause the perception during that meeting that the Defense Force was on Renamo's side and foreign affairs on Frelimo's side. And this led to the situation where I personally appealed to my military delegation and said: You have to work against this tendency, you must mix more readily with the whole group. I did not take part personally in the negotiations. And I did not take part for the very reason that I feared that such a situation would arise. This, is one of the elements, one of the facts, of the propaganda, which these people had observed.

[Pakendorf] General, may I ask a question here?

[Viljoen] Yes.

[Pakendorf] Let me ask you, are you now saying that the Defense Force and foreign affairs now see eye-to-eye on the Nkomati Accord and that you now fully support the Nkomati Accord?

[Viljoen] There was never any question about it. Before the government went over to the Nkomati Accord, it had already been accepted by the Defense Force. That is the system we have of security (?observation). And the Defense Force totally accepted in the responsibility of assisting the Nkomati Accord in the political and diplomatic initiatives. This lead to our role, which I explained to you earlier, in phase one, which was exactly the same in the second phase, which we have not yet discussed. And that is the final phase, in which Deputy Minister Nel was trying, in which we were trying, for the second time to arrange secret discussions between Renamo and Frelimo in an attempt to solve the security problem in Mozambique.

[Botes] General, one last question from me. Let us return to the diary. If the diaries are genuine, if they are correct, then they

indicate that there is a great difference between the defense and foreign affairs in their thinking and actions. If the diaries are not genuine, then they indicate something else; namely, that the Russians, the KGB, or whoever, have a detailed knowledge of military and diplomatic actions in South Africa. What is your comment?

[Viljoen] What worries me about the diaries situation is, first, why was the entire diary not made available? Why are certain parts being kept back? Why are some parts that have now been made available in the press being erased or even, with the aid of paper (?which was treated with sophisticated equipment) being completely obliterated?

[Botes] But, General, you are not answering my question, whether or not it is true...

[Viljoen, interrupting] Now, I am getting there. The basic fact in answering this question directly, with the little time we have, is: There are certain things about all this that are undoubtedly true, and that is just how propaganda works. They use facts. The truth is that we took Deputy Minister Nel to Gorongosa. Another truth is that I sent a message to Renamo. The purpose of that message was to convince Renamo to agree to negotiations, despite their strong military position — because at that time they were in their strongest military position ever. I...[changes thought] in the statement, for example, I was quoted as saying we were having problems with the South African politicians. This was not true. I had said we have problems with politicians, meaning the politicians in Frelimo and Renamo who were making too much propaganda during the negotiations.

[Botes] General, unfortunately I have to interrupt you there. Brian Pottinger, Harald Pakendorf, and chief of the Defense Force, Gen Constand Viljoen, thank you all for your participation in tonight's "Network."

Law Minister Threatens Action Against Newsmen

MB110829 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Text] The minister of law and order, Mr Louis le Grange, says the police will in future take action against journalists who do not report correctly on the unrest situation in South Africa.

Mr le Grange addressed the Border Agricultural Show at Queenstown, and referred to overseas television news teams who, he said, twisted the facts to serve their own ends. He said he had facts at his disposal that rioters had simulated sensational scenes for payment.

Mr le Grange referred to the internal situation in South Africa and said although 670 people have been killed in the rioting in the past 15 months and 1,062 were being held under the emergency regulations, there were clear signs that the unrest was abating.

Ciskei's Sebe Warns Against 'Radicalization'

MB101506 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2023 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Text] Bisho, Oct 9, SAPA — "Radicalisation" has been active lately in the Ciskei, which cannot escape the present violence in southern Africa, President Lennox Sebe said today.

Speaking at the official opening of the Ciskei people's Development Bank headquaters at Bisho, Mr Sebe warned those "elements" which he said are attempting to disturb stability and progress.

"You will not succeed, we will hunt you and we will stamp out your evil and malicious aims in Ciskei", he said.

He said the bank should, together with all government departments, be part of a team engaged in developing the nation.

Mr Sebe said the South African Government should not be lulled into a false sense of hope.

"I can never and will never support the evil atrocities of the system of apartheid, and I'll do everything possible in my life to rid the whole southern African subcontinent of this monster under which we have suffered so long."

Mr Sebe said: "Make up South Africa. You will find enough black people willing to negotiate if you are willing to keep your promises regarding development, not violence."

Mr Sebe added there was no room for negotiation on hunger.

"Hungry stomachs has no ears, and will defy all bullets, all hardships, in order to get relief on which they existence of the individual depends," he said.

Buthelezi Shuns Negotiation Under Current Framework

MB110758 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0657 GMT 11 Oct 85

[SAPA PR wire service; issued by the chief ministers office, Ulundi]

[Text] Berne — No black leader would retain credibility after entering negotiations about the future of South Africa under the limited framework which President P.W. Botha had already enunciated, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi said here today.

He told Switzerland's federal state secretary for foreign affairs, Mr Edouard Brunner, at a luncheon meeting that, before real negotiations could begin, Mr Botha must commit himself about power-sharing between black and white.

The state president had also to commit himself to finding a compromise between white demands for racial exclusivity and black demands for a one-man-one-vote system of government in a unitary state.

Unless both sides moved away from impossible preconditions, there was no room for diplomacy. "I really do believe," the KwaZulu chief minister said, "that these two stated conditions can be resolved only by violence."

National problems could neither be regionalised nor racialised. South Africa was one country, with one people who had one destiny and, at the most, its people were differentiated by cultural considerations.

"But to turn cultural and language differences into constitutional and political differences is a prescription for disaster which I will not co-author."

Chief Buthelezi told the Swiss foreign secretary that the resilience of the South African economy under extraordinary and emergency conditions should not be under-estimated.

He said it was true that the government's mismanagement of the economy and the violence in black townships had combined to create sobering circumstances.

It was also true, however, that the government had not yet really been shaken by the violence and that it had not come anywhere near having to mobilise more than a fraction of its police and military might to contain it.

The vast majority of whites had not had their "leisurely and affluent way of life" disturbed, and no major employer had had his undertakings brought to a standstill by the unrest.

There were many examples of how authoritarian rule could cope with endemic violence, and those who painted a picture of a South Africa about to go up in flames grossly under-estimated the government's ability to curb the spread of violence and contain it to black areas.

Chief Buthelezi said he believed that Western observers failed to understand the extent to which President Botha could rally enough white backing (against external threats) for "measures more harsh that we have ever seen before in action against revolutionary forces.

"If the West is interested in radical change in South Africa and wishes to see a race-free, open democracy with the rule of law...then it should accept the need to strengthen black democratic opposition to apartheid and help to increase the bargaining powers of black South Africa."

UDF West Cape President Released From Detention

MB101958 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1858 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Cape Town, Oct 10, SAPA — Mr Zollie Malindi, president of the Western Cape region of the United Democratic Front [UDF] was released from detention by security police in Cape Town today. He was driven to Cape Town by security police after his release on Wednesday and arrived in the city at 8.15 am today. Mr Malindi may not be quoted as he is a listed person.

Mr Wilfred Rhodes, Western Cape UDF vice-president, said today that no charges had been laid against the 61-year-old Guguletu resident.

Mr Malindi and UDF patron Dr Allan Boesak were both detained on August 27, and both men had been held in Pretoria.

Mr Rhodes said Mr Malindi was in good health, although he had at one stage had problems with his diet in detention.

"His life has been distrupted," Mr Rhodes said. "His detention was a complete waste of time and money, and caused hardship by disrupting his life. The UDF has always been an open organisation."

20 Former COSAS Members Reported Detained

MB110530 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2354 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Port Elizabeth, Oct 10, SAPA — Twenty former members of the banned Congress of South African Students (COSAS) were reportedly detained by security police in Grahamstown today while attending a meeting on the Rhodes University Campus.

The meeting was apparently arranged by the former COSAS members — most of whom are from Port Elizabeth — to discuss the education charter, after an invitation by the Rhodes Creative Art Soceity.

The chairman of the Rhodes SRC [Student Representative Council], Mr Barry du Toit, said the former COSAS people appeared to have been locked in the meeting room for 20 minutes while police radioed for transport.

He said that when he arrived at the room — opposite the SRC offices — after being informed of the arrival of the police, he saw a black man whom he assumed was a policeman in the corridor. The man wore an Education Charter T-shirt and carried a gun.

About seven uniformed policemen and members of the security branch, some of whom he recognised, left the meeting room soon afterwards and led the former COSAS members to a waiting police vehicle, he said.

Some of the former COSAS members were thought to be from eastern Cape towns, including Uitenhage, Alexandria, Port Alfred and Fort Beaufort. The police duty officer in Port Elizabeth could not comment on the reported detentions tonight.

Police Report Unrest Incidents, Situation

10 Oct Report

MB101800 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1757 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Excerpts] Pretoria Oct 10 SAPA — Police 7 pm unrest situation report:

Since the 8 o'clock update this morning, there have been minor incidents of lawlessness, characterised by the stoning of private and police vehicles and, in a few instances, the stoning of private homes and arson.

In the Cape, the police who are restoring law and order in the coloured residential area of Mitchells Plain and thereby ensuring the rights of law-abiding citizens, were once again the target of radicals and law-breakers.

Yesterday evening two shots were fired from a makeshift barricade at a police patrol. No injuries or arrests were reported.

In Natal, in the Chesterville residential area last night, a mob of arsonists hurled a petrol bomb at a private house, causing extensive damage. No injuries or arrests were reported.

During this morning, a mob of black arsonists set a delivery vehicle distributing the *SOWETAN* newspaper alight in Soweto. It was extensively damaged. No injuries or arrests were reported.

In White City in the Boland in the western Cape — a coloured residential area — this morning police arrested six coloured males on charges of arson.

In Phillipi in the Cape a mob of coloured arsonists this morning set a private vehicle alight. Extensive damage was caused. No arrests or injuries were reported.

In Manziville, on the West Rand, this morning a mob of black arsonists set a bus alight, causing extensive damage. No injuries or arrests were reported.

In Kwanobuhle near Uitenhague, this morning a police patrol found a school burning. Extensive damage was caused.

In Claremont residential area near Durban, a vehicle raced through a police roadblock. Police gave chase and forced the vehicle to stop. When a members of the force tried to effect an arrest the vehicle started driving off again, dragging the policeman with it. It started reversing, dragging the policeman with it. It came to a stop and started moving forward straight at another member of the force who was then forced to fire a shot, fatally wounding the driver and injuring a black woman. In Galishewe near Kimberley this afternoon a mob of blacks stoned a city council vehicle. The driver of the vehicle fired shots. Two black males were slightly injured in this incident. During the afternoon in Zwide in the Eastern Province, a mob of arsonists set a school in the township alight. Extensive damage.

11 Oct Report

MB110730 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0707 GMT 11 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Pretoria, Oct 11, SAPA — Following is the SAP 8 am situation report on unrest in the country. Received by SAPA at 8:55 am.

"At Athlone coloured residential area in the Western Cape, police arrested 2 coloured males, part of a group who erected barricades in a road. In the same area a private vehicle was extensively damaged by arsonists and a coloured man arrested for stoning a bus.

"At Nyanga black residential area in the Western Cape, a private vehicle was destroyed by arsonists. At Elsies River in the Western Cape, a black man was slightly injured when an ambulance was stoned by a group of coloureds.

"In Landsdowne Avenue near Old Crossroads in the Western Cape, SAP vehicles were stoned. Police fired shotguns to disperse the attackers, fatally wounding a black man. At Kotsang black residential area near Bothaville in the Orange Free State, the development board offices were stoned and an attempt made to set them alight. Extensive damage was caused.

"In the black residential area near Burgersdorp in the south Western Cape, the home of a councillor was pertrol-bombed. A black youth in the house suffered burn wounds.

"At Mamelodi near Pretoria, police arrested 2 black men when they stoned a development board vehicle. At Claremont black residential area near Durban, the chairman of the town council's house was destroyed when it was petrol-bombed.

"In Soweto, SADF members fired on several vehicles which drove through road blocks. One black man was fatally wounded. Three black men and two black women were wounded while another black man was arrested. Also in Soweto, a black school was extensively damaged by arsonists.

"At present 1006 persons are being held in terms of the emergency regulations while a total of 3954 have been released."

Cape Pupils Confront Police at Schools

MB101218 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1200 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] Cape townships are once again the scene of violence, as Rafik Rohan reports.

This morning many school pupils gathered at their schools refusing to acknowledge today as a public holiday.

In Athlone, students from four high schools gathered on a main road and set up burning barricades.

Heavily-armed railway police appeared on the scene, as fierce confrontations occurred between the pupils and police. Bricks and bottles were thrown at the police who retaliated by firing repeated rounds of teargas.

Being a holiday there were many little children in the streets and many collapsed as a result of the gas. Windows of Barclays Bank were smashed and a caspir stood guard at the bank. Incidents have also occurred at Mitchell's Plain, and the traffic police have appealed to motorists to stay clear of these areas.

Press Reportage, Commentary on Emergency

10 Oct Review

MB100907 [Editorial Report] South African English- and Afrikaans-language newspapers continue carrying reportage and commentary on the state of emergency:

Johannesburg *SOWETAN* in English on 9 October comments on the "schizophrenia displayed by the government" in its professed efforts at reform. At the same time it announced the "seemingly dazzling reforms" of the removal of the pass system and influx control, the pressure and oppression under the state of emergency was stepped up, the editorial says. Now the government has announced that rand 500 million will be allocated to special programs for the unemployed, but it has also announced an increase of 10 to 15 percent in train and bus fares. "We do not see how those people who are unemployed will gain if they are assisted in doing relief work, when basic things like fares go up," it says.

The same edition reports the Department of Education and Training has announced that pupils would not be barred from writing end-of-year examinations. According to a department spokesman, 91,000 students have registered to sit for the final examination which starts on 25 October. Themba Molefe notes in the "Focus" column, however, that students are afraid of reprisals from "small groups of intimidators" and that many parents "have called for the matric examinations to be postponed" due to the disruption of the school year.

Johannesburg *BUSINESS DAY* in English on 9 October reports that the boycott of white-owned shops in Port Elizabeth has been extended until after Christmas and that "blacks who bought goods in white areas experienced renewed intimidation yesterday after the campaign has slackened slightly.

In its editorial in the same edition, *BUSINESS DAY* says: "Perhaps it would do government good to lose a by-election or two. Perhaps then the National Party can shake its destructive habit of casting fearful glances over its right shoulder, and get on with the real business of reform. It is time for government to realise that there are worse things than losing a seat to the right. That is not where the danger lies."

Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 9 October notes that Bishop Desmond Tutu told British television the time may come "when we will have to say that the lesser of the two evils is to overthrow this unjust system." While "we are sure he is not going to land in jail" for his remarks, the newspaper says, his statements are "obnoxious, coming from a man of the cloth who should be against violence, whatever the aim of those who perpetrate it."

Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 9 October comments in its editorial on the statement by the mayor of Soweto this week that the security forces must solve the problem of township violence "because it is their baby, not ours." This implies "an abdication of responsibilitity by black governments — and also by parents and township people," it says. It is true that only the government can bring about the political solution which is the alternative to chronic violence, and that it must lift the state of emergency and begin serious negotiation with representative leaders, "but violence will end only with the help of black citizens, who are themselves the victims of it."

In a comment on the editorial page of the same edition, Gavin Relly, an Anglo-American says five common views emerged from the businessmen's meeting with the ANC in Lusaka: "First, we are all South Africans." "Second, we all wish to have a vital and productive society supported and endorsed by a majority of the population. Third, a society that would have as one of its major objectives a significant improvement in the health, welfare and education of those who are deprived. Fourth, that there is a sub-continental community interest which calls for consolidation of resources to our mutual benefit rather than their diminishment by quarrels and fighting. Fifth, that whether the politics are of reform or revolution, political stability will not be bought by votes if the population as a whole enjoys no prospect of improvement in its material condition."

Pretoria *DIE TRANSVALER* in Afrikaans on 8 October says in an editorial that "when the process of constitutional change is busy gaining mometum it is to be expected that the agenda can not always be determined beforehand." This was the case with the Groups Areas Act.

At the recent National Party Cape congress the state president gave notice that the Group Areas Act was not on the agenda for discussion. He was loudly applauded for that. Also amid loud applause, Labor Party leader and cabinet member Rev Allan Hendrickse unequivocally rejected the Group Areas Act at his party's congress this weekend. By implication this signals pressure within the cabinet to once again investigate the act, the editorial says. A few years ago a difference of opinion such as this would have fanned the flames of confrontation politics. But "this situation shows that the stage has been reached where differences can be accommodated in a responsible manner. Much progress has been made," it concludes.

Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans on 9 October in a commentary asks if the costly bush war in Angola really holds enough strategic advantages for South Africa to justify its continuation. "Can it contribute to a political solution in South-West Africa?" The Angola struggle has recently taken such a serious turn that South Africa is obliged to think carefully about its objectives in Angola and its support for Dr Jona Savimbi. "The aim of the war can shortly be summed up as an effort to help UNITA overthrow the MPLA government." Despite Dr Savimbi's strong leadership, he will not be able to rule the whole of Angola, it says. "The official America view is that Angola is too large to be ruled by one faction alone." If this is true, it means the UNITA will only rule as a member of a coalition, and its relationship with South Africa will come under pressure. The war in Angola has angered America as far as South Africa is concerned and has involved South Africa in serious international tension at a time when it can least afford it, it says.

Johannesburg *DIE VADERLAND* in Afrikaans on 8 October says in an editorial: "Earlier this year the whole country was shocked when television viwers saw how a black woman would leave South Africa if such a gruesome deed occurred again. It

wasn't the first nor the last incident, and Bishop Tutu quickly withdrew his threat. On Saturday the body of an unknown man was found in Langa. He was burnt with old tires. There is no excuse for this is barbarity at its worst," it says. It must be eradicated, and to this end all the black leaders should cooperate. Concluding, it says: "Our position on reform has been repeatedly made clear. We are not prepared to share power with these murderers or accept justification or extenuation of their deeds."

11 Oct Review

MB110711 [Editorial Report] Johannesburg *BEELD* in Afrikaans on 10 October quotes Piet Clase, minister of education and culture in the House of Assembly, as saying: "The National Party [NP] stands by the principle of separate residential areas and schools because it is the right of every race group to be independent and to keep its identity." Speaking at Sasolburg he said that the Group Areas Act and the Population Registration Act are not negotiable because they are not discriminatory. He says the government has given the coloreds, Indians, and blacks their own areas in which they can develop. "It is not discriminatory. It is differentiation," he said. Concluding, the article quotes the minister as saying, "If the world wants to fight about it then we too will fight."

In the same issue in an editorial entitled "Living Together", *BEELD* says "since the Prohibition of Mixed Marriages Act was repealed, 26,500 marriages have been solemnized, of which 130 are mixed. There are no signs that the country is being inundated with mixed couples and it will undoubtedly not happen in future. "The fact is really that such cases do exist and must be handled by the state." The basic problem, it says, is that the government has put in motion the process of mixed marriages without knowing precisely how to deal with the consequences. It says the present ad hoc handling of such cases holds much too much potential grief and unnecessary political misuse, and asks, "Isn't it time that a more natural social handling of such cases be introduced?"

Johannesburg *THE STAR* in English on 10 October reports that Murphy Morobe, acting publicity secretary for the United Democratic Front, told a meeting of the Black Students' Society (BSS) at Witwatersrand University Wednesday that "there could be no talk of reconciliation until 'white power' had been transferred into the 'hands of the people'."

"We are faced with a governemnt which has lost all initiative and which can't govern with the consent of the majority of the people," the article quotes him as saying. The BSS had urged students at the university to boycott the main National Initiative for Reconciliation meeting and called its own meeting, because it said the "university was out of touch with the 'sentiments of anti-apartheid forces on campus'."

"The Progressive Federal Party will shortly set up formal structures on the Witwatersrand for monitoring complaints about police excesses," *THE STAR* reports in the same edition. A statement released Wednesday by Mrs Helen Suzman, the party's spokesman on law and order, said the structures were planned to "supplement existing services."

David Braun reports in the same edition of *THE STAR* that although President Botha has said the Group Areas Act will stay, "national Party liberals, including perhaps some ministers, are anxious to consolidate the government's reform program enough to realise that the Group Areas Act has to be negotiable. The likely compromise acceptable to the government, say within a year or two so as to get some distance away form Mr Botha's inflexible stand, is to allow local communities to make the ultimate choice." There are already a number of mixed residential areas in all the major South African cities, Braun notes, and the government is likely to continue to turn a blind eye to these areas, and "eventually accept that local communities have the right to have integrated zones. Johannesburg *THE CITIZEN* in English on 10 October in its editorial on Paul Kruger Day, comments that if Kruger were alive today he would see that the Afrikaner "volk" is bitterly divided, that it "has lost its sense of destiny as well as unity." "The policies of apartheid of separate development — the bible of the Nationalist Afrikaner for more than three decades — have failed," it says. Kruger would see that, and he would hope, "as we do, that the volk, the ruling tribe, and whites in general will not fritter away their energies in senseless recriminations, but that the great majority will accept the need for reform and take the new road the state president has embarked on."

ZAMBIA

Kaunda Urges States To Reduce Reliance on RSA

MB101852 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] His Excellency President Kaunda has called on Preferential Trade Area [PTA] member-states to reduce their reliance on the racist South Africa. Dr Kaunda noted that the PTA was of special significance to African countries because of the explosion taking place in South Africa. But at the same time developing countries in the southern hemisphere realized that they cannot completely do without South Africa. Dr Kaunda was speaking at State House today when Burundi's minister of commerce and industry and chairman of PTA council of ministers, Mr Albert Muganga, called on him with a special message from Burundi President Jean-Baptiste Bagaza. Dr Kaunda pointed out that developed countries are also facing serious economic problems but southern Africa, bit by the drought, was facing worse problems and the PTA, as a genuine area of cooperation, must ensure that exploitation of one country by another does not happen among PTA members.

ZIMBABWE

Security Minister Says RSA Infiltrating Bandits

MB101719 Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Text] The minister of state for security, Comrade Emmerson Munangagwa, has pointed out that South Africa is carrying out a clandestine operation to infiltrate dissidents into Zimbabwe. Comrade Munangagwa said a South African reconnaissance [as heard] has been moved form the Northern Transvaal to the

Caprivi Strip to prepare the infiltration of dissidents into the country.

He said two officers, a former special branch official and former members of the Rhodesian Selous Scouts, are charged with the responsibility of furthering banditry in the country if unity talks between ZANU-PF and ZAPU succeed. The security minister added that he is aware of a conference of Muzorewa, Nkomo, and Sithole (?earlier) with South Africa aimed at forging an alliance which will seek permission from bandits of the so-called MNR to open a front in the eastern district of Zimbabwe. [as heard]

However, Comrade Munangagwa assured the nation that such plans will never succeed, just like attempts by the MNR to establish bases along the Zimbabwean border failed 2 years ago. He said the MNR will not attempt to come into Zimbabwe after the lesson of Gorongosa, adding that there are enough forces to deal with internal security without affecting the contingent guarding the pipeline to Beira.

Comrade Munangagwa also said 2 of the 12 dissidents who murdered 21 innocent civilians in Mwenezi were killed in follow-up operations while two others were captured.

Radio Truth Discusses ZANU-PF, ZAPU Merger

MB101150 (Clandestine) Radio Truth to Zimbabwe in English 0430 GMT 10 Oct 85

[Station commentary]

[Text] First it was the ZIPRA military commander and the movement's chief of intelligence. Gradually it spread to senior ZAPU officials, then the party's members of parliament and prominent city councillors. The arrest and detention of these men was all part of a deliberate ZANU-PF campaign to emasculate its rival organization and to break the spirit of the Ndebele nation. In the latest move, five senior army officers, all ex-ZIPRA, have been taken into custody. This action was taken at the very time when progress was said to be on the cards for a merger between the two parties. It shows that inside the velvet glove ZANU-PF still relies on the mailed fist to achieve its objectives.

There are two aspects to this development which merits consideration. In the first place, as we have warned some weeks ago, ZANU-PF are determined to convert our army into an all-Shona force with allegiance to the party rather than the nation. White members of the army have been denied the opportunity to renew their contracts, and this element is being progressively discarded. We said that ex-ZIPRA members would be the next to go, and so it has transpired.

The second factor concerns the potential merger agreement. Comrade Mugabe and his henchmen are obsessed with their plan to convert Zimbabwe into 1-party state by hook or by crook. All these ZAPU detainees, military and civilian, are being held as hostages to try and force through an accord on the merger. The men in jail are being used as a bargaining chip to force the hand of the remaining ZAPU leadership. Some of the detainees will be offered conditional freedom, if, and only if an agreement is signed.

Moreover, using the iron fist and velvet glove approach, Joshua Nkomo is being alternatively harassed and wooed by the ruling regime. On the one hand his personal safety has been threatened. He has been warned of possible arrest, he has been detained for questioning, his homes have been raided, his personal weapons confiscated, and his leading supporters taken as hostages. The aim was to isolate and demoralize the old man. Now comes the soft touch. Nkomo will be offered the post of senior vice president in the new and unified party. This is Mugabe's last throw and his newest tactic. He tried to bludgeon the Ndebele into submission using the infamous 5th Brigade as his instrument. The brutal campaign failed in its purpose, as the local council and general election results demonstrated. Offering an inducement to Nkomo is designed to attract Ndebele support. It is almost a parallel with the earlier days in Zambia between Kenneth Kaunda [K.K.] and Harry Nkambula, and later still between K.K. and Simon Kapepwe. There seems little doubt that Nkomo is susceptible to such blandishments. It has been his lifelong ambition to be recognized as a national leader; preferably of course as number one, but today he would settle for less.

In the post-independence era he accepted the portfolio of home affairs because it was a powerful post with considerable influence at his command. He was undermined first of all by the ZANU-PF women's league, who accused him of bias against the ruling party supporters in his handling of the police. Then came the trumped up charges about caches of arms, which led to his dismissal. Every man is said to have his price, and perhaps senior vice president is too big a temptation. A forced merger with ZAPU will enable the prime minister to avoid the expense and acrimony of a 1987 snap election. In a unified party he would have more than enough votes to abolish the reserved seats by legal process, and to usher in his de facto 1-party state. However, there are danger signals of which ZANU-PF might take heed. A shotgun marriage is never a very satisfactory arrangement. The ruling party was said to be in the process of weeding out those people who's loyalty and dedication to party principles and policies were suspect. A merger with ZAPU would bring a potential 5th column into their midst. The vicious intimidation of ZAPU supporters in the past will have bred neither loyalty nor respect for ZANU-PF. A form of allegiance will have been bought at a price the Ndebele will resent. The two political forces might become united in name, but it will be a weaker type of unity to the one that exists within the party at present. If, as the government claims, ZAPU have links with the dissidents movement, a highly debatable and disputed issue, then in a single party the dissidents would have inside access to cabinet, politburo, and central committee affairs. What is more, there will be a much greater risk of a palace revolt. On a more positive note. If the merger becomes effective, the ex-ZAPU elements could work to change the more radical ZANU-PF policies from within. We will all have to hold our breath until the prime minister gets back from his jaunt to Cuba. Nothing of consequence will happen in his absence.